



Mrs. Houston's Monday Memo

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# Drama gets Mysterious...

#WHODIDIT?



by [Amber Houston](#) on April 23, 2018

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Our Advanced drama executed a mysterious performance---where we the audience were on the edge of our seats trying to figure out who stole Mrs. Fairfax' necklace! Alas, it was the jilted lover---it always is! Wonderful show of entertainment, comedy and suspense. Huge kudos to Mr. Wardle, his stagecraft students, and all the actors. We are one of the few junior high schools to have drama---our students are so lucky! Drama is a class that builds confidence in our students in all aspects of their life, not just performing!

## Important Upcoming Dates:

- College Night at Lexington JHS April 25, 6pm.
- LCAP Meeting at District Office April 26, 6pm.
- Make up State Tests-April 23/24.
- Ice Cream Party for FunRaiser students April 25, 2:30pm.
- District Track Finals April 26, 1 pm. Western HS.
- April 30 Monday Science State Testing.
- UCI LEXpectations 7th grade college trip
- Sports at Lexington 3:15pm., May 1.
- Dance Show May 3 at 6pm MPR.
- Saturday Academy May 5-FINAL ONE
- Sports at Lexington 3:15, May 7.
- May 7-11 Math State Testing.
- DELAC Meeting May 8, 9:15am.
- Choir Show May 9 6pm Gym.
- Make Up Math State tests May 14/15.
- Scholar Athlete Dinner, May 14 5pm at Anaheim convention Center.
- Concert on the Green, Band in our quad, May 16, 6pm.
- Lunch with a Lion, May 17.
- Lion Awards, May 17 6pm Gym.
- Yearbook Distribution May 22.
- 8th Grade Party, May 24 (during school day).
- Minimum Day 12:10, last day of school----Thursday May 24th!

## **National Walkout Day, April 20**

I sincerely come to my parent community to inform all of you of the facts that occurred this past Friday. As seen in the media over the last month-there have been two publicized National Walk outs. One was in March while we were on Spring break and one was this past Friday. The unfortunate and sad violence that has been occurring in schools across the nation is a very relevant and important issue to not only parents, but to all of our students as well. I know that the day Columbine occurred years ago I had to force myself in dropping my own son at his kindergarten class the next day; fearful, sad and confused at what used to be a safe and normal activity in a mom's life. I have never looked at school the same way---not as a principal and not as a mom. With this said, I want our community to know how highly AUHSD and our administration team view safety and security.

Several weeks ago I received several well-written, articulate and compassionate essays addressing the school shootings, most recently the Parkland shooting. I brought one of the students into my office, where she requested "A Call to Action," a show of respect and time dedicated to the victims. As parents and educators, I think the greatest thing we can teach is character, respect and to stand up for what we believe in. These students exhibited great care to all of these values.

I did not come to any decision lightly, trying to view all perspectives on this highly emotional and personal issue that our stakeholders (teachers, parents, students) are touched by. Tinker vs. Des Moines, set precedent and laws for schools to adhere to in relation to school demonstrations and walkouts. We as a school are to provide a safe place for such an activity.

I decided to allow this student representative to read a brief statement on the loud speaker during our morning announcements calling for an 18-minute walk out in the quad. Seventeen minutes for each victim and one extra minute for all others before and after the Parkland shooting. This was a completely optional choice for each student and was in no way encouraged. There was no announcement made by a school staff member. Very calmly, roughly 100 students gathered in the quad under the supervision of our administration, counseling, security, and teachers on conference who volunteered. There were some standing in silence, some with a pre-made sign, some tried to start a chant, and yes, some ran around disrespecting the entire purpose. The adults sent those students back to class. After the 18-minutes, I announced to return to class which all students complied. Thereafter, we continued on with our testing schedule and entire school day with no other issues arising. As a school we are here to teach the facts and content...parents we support you in taking it from there. If you are to have any other questions, please feel free to reach out.

-Mrs. Houston

# College Night at Lexington

Wednesday, April 25th

6:00pm

The Lexington Counseling Department will be hosting a parent and student college night on April 25th starting at 6:00 pm. Representatives from UCI, CSUF and Cypress College will be on hand. Former Lexington students who are presently in college or are now college graduates will also be hosting a question and answer panel. This night is not to be missed-it will be a great way to start planning for your future!



**Cypress College**

*Minds. Motivated.*



## It's that time again.....STATE TESTING!

Flowers blooming, sun is shining, and kids are wiggly...and state testing. We just presented on this at our last coffee chat. For those of you who couldn't make it, below is our testing schedule. Please review with your child and check your calendars. We kindly request that students make the strongest effort to be present for these times. Remind your student that this test is a summative measure of what they have been learning all year---get plenty of rest, consume breakfast and be ready to focus! Thank you to Mr. Pfeiffer for all your hardwork and all our staff for doing what is best for kids!

<b>April 19, 2018 Thursday ELA/CAT</b>	<b>April 20, 2018 Friday ELA/PTA</b>	<b>April 23, 2018 Monday ELA Make-up (regular schedule)</b>	<b>April 24, 2018 Tuesday ELA Make-up (regular schedule)</b>
<b>May 7-11, 2018 Math/CAT/PTA  Mon - Fri (regular schedule)</b>	<b>May 14-15, 2018 Math Make-up  Mon - Fri (regular schedule)</b>	<b>April 30 to May 1, 2018  CAST 8th Grade (regular schedule)</b>	<b>May 14-15, 2018  CAST Make-up (regular schedule)</b>

*This Week's*  
**TOP STORIES**

**CHOIR WINS FIRST**

Our Lexington Velocity Show Choir brought home the first place trophy at the recent Oceanside Competition! I am so proud of hard hard these students and teacher work. This class is after school and they dedicate endless amounts of time, effort and heart into all their routines and shows! Congratulations! LEXcellence!



## ACADEMIC PENTATHALON

We had our first competition this past weekend! Introducing our 2018 team:

**8th Grade:** Nhu Nguyen, Natalie Kim, Arshia Bose, Amber Galante, Sidrah Trad

**7th Grade:** Shruti Singh, Jayant Madhi, Bianca Alcantara, Rivers Stout, Abraham Saleh, Anisa Abdulle

Thank you to advisor, Ms. Berekian and also Mr. Aza who helped chaperone

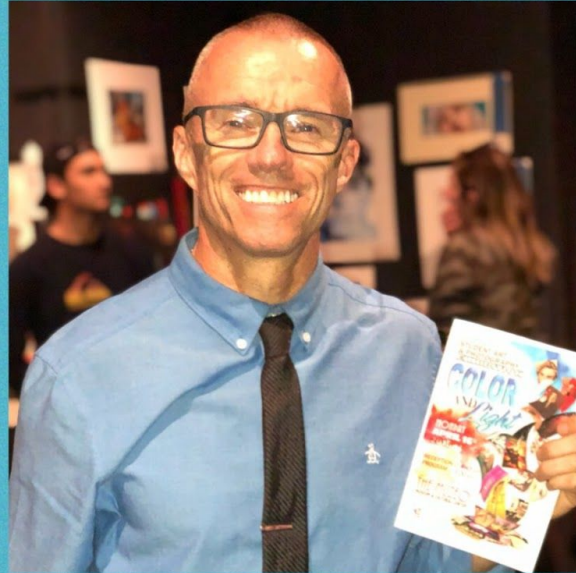
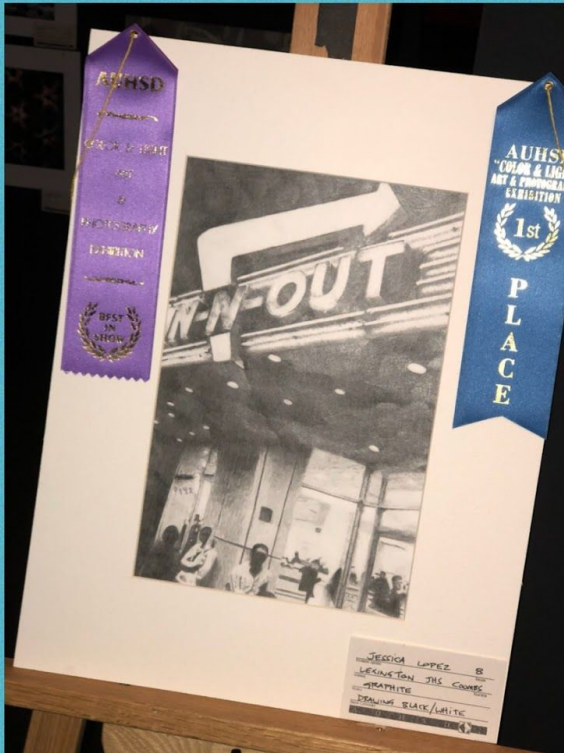




## COLOR AND LIGHT SHOW 2018

Congratulations to our students were were recognized at the Color and Light Show this past week at the Anaheim Muzeo, honored by district leadership! Again, Mr Coombs and his talents swept up most categories!

BEST  
IN  
SHOW



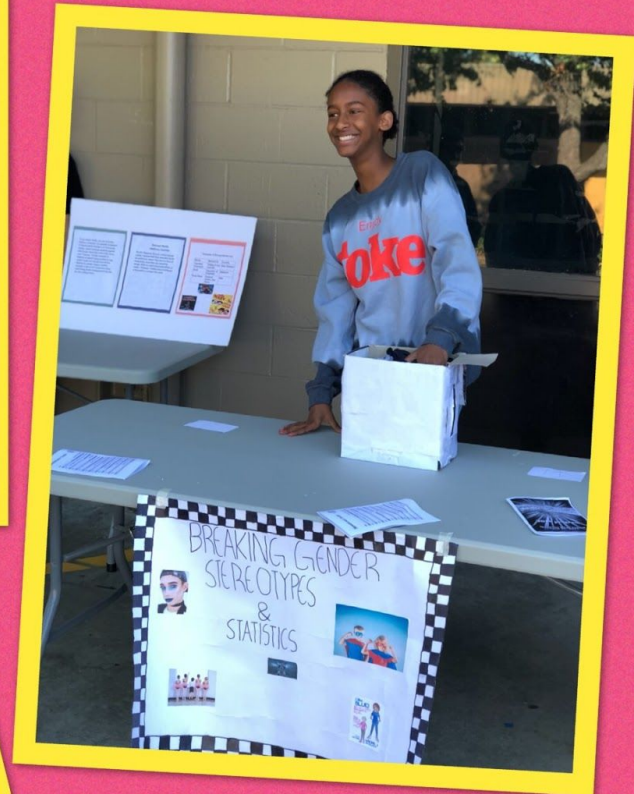


# WINNERS



## **STEAMAPALOOZA 2018**

Kudos to our students and staff who participated in this year's district STEAM showcase, called Steamapalooza. Ms. Cummings Robotics students showed off their skills, while Ms. Stewart's kid danced on the main stage and Mrs. Cooley's students had their PSA's and Tolerance Summit work presented. It was a family fun day to not only check out our kids, but all the super stars from across the district that are excelling in areas of STEAM. Thank you to Ms. Berekian and Mr. Rae for being our teacher leads and organizing this event! An extra thanks to Mr. Pfiesser who was a district representative on orchestrating the set up and tear down off all displays and vendors!



*Steamapalooza*



# HOME EC COOKING UP FUN

## **Adv. Home Ec:** Chicken Fettuccine Alfredo & Garlic Bread

- VERY Complex cook!
- 3 burners and oven at the same time
- homemade alfredo
- safety & sanitation (cooking w/ raw meat)
- outstanding effort! SO PROUD

## **Young Living:** Margherita Pita Pizzas and Zucchini Basil Bites

- studying Nutrition Unit
- 1/2 kitchens cooked one dish and the other 1/2 cooked the second; students plated/served one another
- delicious and nutritious!
- seared the zucchini, layered with pizza sauce, fresh basil and topped with cheese; baked in oven
- Made own pizza sauce, thin tomato slices for margherita style, topped with cheese and baked
- shared w/ one another
- Fantastic healthy meal!





# **FUNRAISER ALL STUDENT ASSEMBLY**

As a school we raised over \$75,000 for our annual FunRaiser from October! We had our fun motivational and magic show on Monday. The kids loved it! Tons of student participation and lots of laughs! Thank you again for your support!



## DISTRICT and community announcements



We'd like to provide your students with a brand new opportunity during the summer at the TGR Learning Lab. Here are some details:

Who: AUHSD students from Ball, Lexington, South, Sycamore and Walker Junior High Schools

What: Summer Academy

Where: TGR Learning Lab

When: June 4th-8th from 9:00am-12:00pm

Cost: \$5 refundable deposit

Class Offerings: DIY Chemistry, Mobile App Design, Robotics Engineering and Comparative Zoology

\*Round trip transportation will be provided through AUHSD between each school and the TGR Learning Lab. (30 students minimum per school must be accepted into the program for transportation to be provided)

We'd love to explain more in detail this opportunity and hear your feedback on the program overall, as well as the possibility of securing at least 30 students from your school to participate. If you'd like to set up a phone call, please let me know when the best time would be.

I have attached the application, which is due by April 20<sup>th</sup>. Once students submit the application, we will notify them of acceptance, which is first come, first served. Here is a link to a short promotional video of this opportunity that you may share with students: <https://animoto.com/play/LjnNgg9ESAWizq82k7BJRA>

Thank you,

KIMBERLY O'TOOLE

Programs Manager

TGR Learning Lab | TGR Foundation – A Tiger Woods Charity

P: 714.765.8000

One Tiger Woods Way, Anaheim, CA 92801

[TGRFoundation.org](https://TGRFoundation.org) | [@TGRFound](https://twitter.com/TGRFound)



## OCEAN MATTERS | SPEAKER SERIES

# Plastic Pollution

in the Local Marine  
Environment

**THURSDAY, April 26th, 2018**

*Doors Open at 6:30pm, Presentation begins at 7pm.*

Free for members, \$15 for non-members,  
reservations required, payment can  
be made at the door.

Please reserve by April 24th, 2018  
to Shannon Clafford at  
[sclafford@discoverycube.org](mailto:sclafford@discoverycube.org)

*Made possible through the generous support of Scott S. Pollard, Trustee  
of the Winslow Maxwell Charitable Trust and The Hoag Foundation.*

Join us to hear Darrel Ferguson, a core member, staff and volunteer of the Surfrider Foundation, speak about how for over a decade the Surfrider Foundation as well as many other environmental organizations have become aware of the ubiquitous presence of plastic particles in the ocean and its inhabitants. Over 40 years ago we knew plastic was becoming a threat to marine life in the form of entanglement, but only recently have we become aware of its threat to marine life as something ingested. We now suspect that the greatest harm by plastic is the fact that it can make dead zones by blocking out sunlight to phytoplankton. What can we do to help?

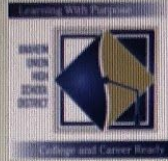
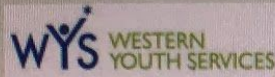
Mr. Ferguson has lived in Orange County for over 45 years. He has a background in plumbing and construction. He has been a member of Surfrider Foundation since 2004. In 2009, he became a core volunteer and has since served in many positions on the executive committee of the Newport Beach Chapter. He is now part time staff and program coordinator and oversees the water quality program used in 4 Orange County high schools, organizes the youth program in the Newport Beach Watershed, hosts over 20 beach cleanups each year and helps facilitate the Rise above plastics program and Ocean Friendly Restaurants program. He helps with the city of Newport Beach and the Orange County Public Works in their trash and debris volunteer monitoring programs. Please invite family and friends to this informative and unique presentation.



Discovery Cube's  
**OceanQuest**  
NEWPORT BEACH

600 E. Bay Ave. | Newport Beach, CA 92661

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# Mental Health Awareness Fair

Youth Mental Health

The Anaheim Union High School District in collaboration with The Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance and Western Youth Services invite you to the Mental Health Awareness Fair!

**DATE:** Saturday, May 5, 2018




**TIME:** 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Location:**

Anaheim Union High School District  
District Office  
501 N. CRESCENT WAY, ANAHEIM CA 92801

This fair is for youth, parents, families and community members. There is no cost for attending or participating.




Come learn about resources available and meet service providers who will offer information on:

-  Mental Health Services
-  Prevention and Early Intervention Services
-  Substance Abuse Services
- ... and much more

Games  
& Prizes

Raffles!

You will have the opportunity to sit in on presentations related to the following topics:

-  Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) or Trauma.
-  Legalization of Marijuana: Understand what this means for parents and how it is affecting our communities.
-  School Based Mental Health: School Violence Prevention and Intervention

***Presentations are for audiences who are 18 years old and older.  
ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN WILL BE AVAILABLE.***

**For information call:**

- Adela Cruz, LCSW, PPSC  
School Based Mental Health
- Office Phone: 714-999-7734

**\*\*VENDORS:** Do you want to participate? Email [mwinter@ocapica.org](mailto:mwinter@ocapica.org) to request the registration form.

# Communication   Ownership   Relevancy

[Check out more information  
on our website!](#)



Lexington Junior High School  
4351 Orange Ave., Cypress, CA 90630