#### Volume 4, Issue 2



### WEST CONTRA COSTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT MATTHEW DUFFY, SUPERINTENDENT

# VISTA HIGH SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL Edith Jordan-McCormick

# Home of the Tigers! CLASS OF 2019

Everyone can be great, because everyone can serve."

> - Martin Luther King, Jr.



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#### Meet Edith Jordan-McCormick, Vista High School's New Principal

Welcome Edith Jordan-McCormick, the proud new principal of Vista High School! Beginning her third year in West Contra Costa Unified School District, Mrs. McCormick is extremely excited and ready to serve the Tiger school community. Mrs. McCormick has served diverse student bodies all over the bay area in Oakland, San Francisco, and Berkeley Unified School Districts. She has been in education for over twenty years and brings with her a wealth of experience and excitement to the VHS community.

Mrs. McCormick began her career as an elementary school teacher in the Bayview Hunters Point area in San Francisco in the mid 1990's. She eventually moved to Martin Luther King Middle School in Berkeley where she taught Humanities and Reading to grades 6-8. After joining the King Middle School staff, a colleague convinced her to apply to the Principal Leadership Institute at UC Berkeley, where she earned her master's degree in educational leadership and administrative credentials. She began her administrative career as an Assistant Principal in the Oakland Unified School District in 2006 and has been in administrative work ever since. She



Quarter			Honor K	<b>Honor Rol</b>
ABDULLA, MARAM KAID	12	4.00	ESQUIVEL, ELIENAI	
ALAMMARI, AMGAD SADIK	12	3.50	FLORIAN, CHARLIE ABRAHAM HENRY	FLORIAN, CHARLIE ABRAHAM HENRY 11
ALHAMBRA, JOSEPH CHESTER VELASCO	12	4.0	GUTIERREZ, VICTORIA MARIANA	GUTIERREZ, VICTORIA MARIANA 11
CARRIERE, ALEXANDRIA WILMA	12	3.857	HERRERA, STEFANI	HERRERA, STEFANI 11
CHAVEZ, STEPHANIE LIZETTE	12	3.80	HOWELL, MOISES WALLACE	HOWELL, MOISES WALLACE 11
CONNORS, HALEY NICOLE	12	3.33	MARTINEZ, KIMBERLY	
GAMEZ, ALEXANDER MICHAEL	12	3.75		·
GOMEZ, SOFIA	12	4.00	MASON, RANDEE ALEXANDRIA	
GONZALEZ FERNANDEZ, VANESSA ISEL	12	3.83	MITCHELL, SIRAH SAGE	MITCHELL, SIRAH SAGE 11
GREEN, SANAA KORRYN	12	3.250	ORANTES HERRARTE, MONICA IZHARY	ORANTES HERRARTE, MONICA IZHARY 11
HARRISON, CROOKS MALINA	12	3.60	ORELLANA, EDUARDO ANTONIO	ORELLANA, EDUARDO ANTONIO 11
HEARN, BRELYNN JEWELL	12	4.00	PARRY, LEILA MICHELLE	PARRY, LEILA MICHELLE 11
JIMENEZ, MELISSA	12	4.00	POLITEAU, KAI JOSEPH	POLITEAU, KAI JOSEPH 11
JONES, BRITTNEY DANIELLE AARON	12	3.75	REYES MUNOZ, JOCELYN LISET	REYES MUNOZ, JOCELYN LISET 11
LYONS, XYLAIA JANAE	12	3.75	STEELEY, NICHOLAS ANTHONY	
MENDOZA, ISAIAH MATTEO	12	3.75	SUCHITE, CAMILA GISSELLE	
MERINO, ANDREA MELISSA	12	3.75		
MOORE, KIMBERLI ANN	12	3.83	TREVINO, LILIANA XOCHITL	
NOBLE, CAYTLYN ZURI ONI	12	4.00	CARBALLO, LILIANA	CARBALLO, LILIANA 10
PEREGRINA, JONATHON	12	3.667	GARCIA JIMENEZ, DILZA GABRIELA	GARCIA JIMENEZ, DILZA GABRIELA 10
PHOENIX, GABRIEL MICHAEL	12	3.50	HERNANDEZ, EVELYN ELIANA	HERNANDEZ, EVELYN ELIANA 10
PLANCHON, MIA FAYE	12	4.00	LOPEZ, RODRIGUEZ, JIMENA	LOPEZ, RODRIGUEZ, JIMENA 10
RICHARDSON, SHANIA LEE	12	3.667	MIRANDA, VANESSA	MIRANDA, VANESSA 10
RIDDELL, G PADYN JORJ	12	4.00	MORALES BARAJAS, SHASDELL	MORALES BARAJAS, SHASDELL 10
ROSAS, LESLY NOEMY	12	3.50	RABBI, HASAN G	RABBI, HASAN G 10
SANTANA, LUA BELLA	12	3.33	RIDDELL, CARSYN RESE J	
SMITH, LIZSET MIA	12	3.25	VOTO BERNALES, GEOVANNA	
VALENZUELA, ANAHI	12	3.167		
ABDULRASHID ALQHADI, MASSIR FUAD	11	3.857	WEBB, IMARI TAJA BRIANNE	
ALOMARI, MOSTAFA FAISAL	11	3.20	ALAMMARI, MAHLEAH KHALED	ALAMMARI, MAHLEAH KHALED 9
ATIA, SANAD MOHAMED	11	3.50	ALAWDI, ALBRAA ABDULLAH	ALAWDI, ALBRAA ABDULLAH 9
BERNSTINE, DEMARTANAE	11	3.00	ALEGRIA BRAVO, FABIAN ETHAN	ALEGRIA BRAVO, FABIAN ETHAN 9
BROWN, MACIYAH LAZURE	11	3.88	BANDA CONTRERAS, MARCUS SAID	BANDA CONTRERAS, MARCUS SAID 9
BUI, KEVIN KHANG NGUYEN	11	3.50	DEUMAH, MARIUM S	DEUMAH, MARIUM S 9
CASTILLO, KAYLA SELINE	11	3.80	KAIF, MUHAMMAD	KAIF, MUHAMMAD 9
CERDA, SELENA	11	3.83	MURILLO, CALEB X	
CHAVEZ, NOEMI	11	3.27		,
CHU, ETHAN TYLER	11	3.67	ALOMARI, TAHANY F	
CISNEROS, LUKE	11	3.50	ALNAGGAR, RANA FAHED	ALNAGGAR, RANA FAHED 7
COLLINS, KARL	11	4.00	ELBGAL, LEIN HASEB	ELBGAL, LEIN HASEB 7
DELRIO MANJARREZ, MICHELLE	11	3.60	JIMENEZ, LESLEY LORENA	JIMENEZ, LESLEY LORENA 7
ENDOW, KYLE MASAO	11	3.80	ORELLANA SANTAMARIA, CAMILA	ORELLANA SANTAMARIA, CAMILA 7

# **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Completing 20 hours of community service for a non-profit is a WCCUSD graduation requirement. Students are encouraged to begin their service learning hours early on in high school in the hopes that they will continue their volunteer work beyond the 20 hours. Volunteer work can benefit students when applying for jobs since it is a legitimate form of work experience. Popular service learning opportunities include volunteering at a local elementary school, walking and caring for animals at the local animal shelter, and planting trees/gardening for community organizations. Service learning offers students real life, hands-on experiences, often leading to a career path. After volunteering at Milo, one of our students went on to earn a vet tech certificate and another got a full-time job at a pet boarding business. After her volunteer work at a local elementary school, one of our students was motivated to become an instructional aide in our District. Vista High 10<sup>h</sup> grader Carsyn Riddell completed her service learning requirement by tutoring Vista students in our math lab. She enjoys it so much that she will continue to tutor in order to earn elective credit as a Teacher Assistant. Below is a list of some of the local non-profits that have been popular with students: The Milo Foundation, Greater Richmond, Interfaith Program, The Watershed Project, Urban Tilth, Contra Costa Food Bank, Multicultural Institute, Elementary



## **TEAMWORK AT VHS**



Many people do not know what we do here at Vista High School. We offer a choice in schooling called independent studies. We are not a program and we are not continuation school. We are a type of schooling that allows students and teachers to promote self advocacy and self agency. Our staff works hard to support our students and we collaborate weekly to provide the best program for the students we serve. Imagine a school where all students are individuals and have specific needs, through that lens, you can see Vista High School. Here at VHS our teachers work diligently to do their best to support all of their students individually while they complete school through

the process of independent study. Vista High School has been around for thirty one years. Founded in 1987 to provide a challenging and successful one on one independent study school for at-risk youth, Vista High School continues to serve a diverse population of learners from the cities of Richmond, San Pablo, El Cerrito, Pinole, Hercules, and El Sobrante.

## **EXPLORATORIUM FIELD TRIP**

# My School Explored the Exploratorium

By Alexandria Carriere

One of the many diamonds of the San Francisco Bay Area is The Exploratorium. It is so much more than just a museum; it is an neverending exploration funhouse of science, art, and human perception--a public learning laboratory based on inquiry-filled experiences that have transformed learning worldwide. In their own words on their



website, "Our vision is a world where people think for themselves and can confidently ask questions, question answers, and understand the world around them." In a world where ignorance has become our worst enemy, it's communities like the Exploratorium that gives us hope for a better tomorrow. They've created tools and experiences that help anyone, from children to adults, become an active learner and explorer.

I experienced and observed several beautiful and innovative exhibits the day of our field trip, most of which were interactive and hands-on. However, I have to say that out of everything I viewed, my favorite exhibit was without a doubt "Curious Contraptions". In this exhibit, I explored small, surreal worlds through what is known as automata, which are beautiful, often hilarious mechanical sculptures. I absolutely adored these comical machines, being brought to life by intricate arrangements of handmade cams, cranks, and other simple mechanisms. To be honest, I was completely captivated by them. There are several other exhibits, such as Archimedes, which are parabolic dishes that collect and focus sound waves and reflect them to participants seated within them; the Blood-O-Meter, which counts how many blood cells you have and how many your body made just standing where you are; and even an interactive exhibit called Color Conflicts, where you must read the colored-words, not the words themselves, which just so happen to be the names of colors!

To all who visit San Francisco, whether you are a tourist or not, this wondrous, whimsical, fantastic

## WISE WORDS BY AN ANONYMOUS STUDENT



#### Just Like Yesterday

I saw the sun today, just like yesterday. I reached my hands to get closer to it, but no matter how much I tried...I remembered...that I couldn't. Just like yesterday, I failed again. Will I be able to reach it tomorrow? I'll try to reach it as if I would get my pencil to write. Others might give up, but as for me...I'll keep trying, just like yesterday.

11th grader Vista High School 2018

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