



# The Burbank Bugle



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## Fires Devastate Local Communities

By Kaylye Lopez and Juliana Badua

On Tuesday, January 7th, Los Angeles experienced a massive windstorm. That windstorm started and spread fires in multiple parts of the county. The fires were named the “Palisades Fire,” the “Eaton Fire,” and the “Hurst Fire.” According to the WatchDuty app, the Eaton Fire burned about 14,000 Acres and the Palisades Fire burned about 23,000 Acres. There were other nearby fires as well, but those were smaller.

Thousands of homes were lost, and many residents were evacuated. The fires destroyed many buildings, and at least 27 lives were lost.

The fires spread quickly because of the wind. Ms. Wohl, Burbank seventh grade science teacher,



explained, “Officials are still investigating the causes of the fires, but for the Eaton

Fire, there are already lawsuits against the SoCal Edison Power Company because there is evidence showing that a power line or Transformer may have started the fire.” Ms. Wohl said that her family was not directly affected by the fires, but did have to evacuate. She also said, “Just like many in our community, I have lots of friends who sadly lost their homes.”



A before and after satellite image of Altadena, the site of the Eaton Fire

This affected our air quality as well. The wildfires produced the heaviest smoke and soot the region has seen in recent memory. The air turned orange, and ash fell from the skies.

The community has come together to support those affected by the fire. See our article on the back for information about what our school has done to help support fire victims.

“The Pride of Highland Park”

## Burbank Staff Affected by the Fires

By Madison Adams and Yamilet Lopez

Unfortunately, during the recent fires, several staff members at LBMS were affected by having to evacuate or even losing their homes.

Mr. Robertson, a 6th grade math teacher, was one of the teachers affected by the fire. He and his wife have a house in Altadena. Mr. Robertson said, “I was at school, and I could see the Palisades Fire from the window, and I knew that we live in an area where there’s lots of fires and that the winds would be very strong.”

After seeing the fire, he went home and made a go bag. “I went up to the backyard and all of the hills [behind my house] were on fire.” Many houses around his house were gone. Mr. Robertson and his wife evacuated to Highland Park. The next morning, Mr. Robertson got a text from a neighbor saying that his house was on fire. After hearing this, he and his wife tried driving back to their house to see what had happened.



When Mr. Robertson saw his house, he saw smoke coming out of his garage. Mr. Robertson said, “We were afraid that embers would come down and hit the house, so we watered down the house. We did everything we could for 3 days.” His house is okay now, but his garage (pictured above) burned down. He and his wife cannot go back home because of all the toxic particles.



Mr. Miller, a sixth-grade science and history teacher, was also affected by the fires. He saw the fire at 6:30pm and had to evacuate very early the next morning. After being evacuated, Mr. Miller couldn’t go back to his home for 10 days.

Mr. Miller said, “Evacuating was weird and scary. It was dark... Trees were falling on the road. Wind was all over the place, and it was scary to try to navigate that, and there were a lot of cars.” When he got back home, there was ash everywhere. “[There was] ash and dust all over the house, inside [and] outside,” Mr. Miller said.



When asked what the future looks like for him, Mr. Miller said, “Rebuilding the community in a way that’s respectful to people.”

Mr. Feinberg’s Advisory – Y22

## LBMS Responds to Fire Ash and Wind Debris

By Lexie Cobarrubias and Bryden Landberg

When the fires happened, Burbank Middle School had to make some quick decisions. Mrs. Moore, Burbank



Principal, explained, “On January 7, it was very smoky and even inside some classes it smelled smoky, so we immediately tried to get students to central locations that were safe and

less smoky.”

After students moved to a central location, another problem happened. “The power went out around 10:00 and came back around 11:00. During that time, we had to open the window shades so we could have light and play games that did not involve smart boards.”

After the power outage, officials decided to close the school. “Around 11:00 we got the notification that we were closing so we had all students contact their parents and pick them up. We moved all the students to A106 and they were picked up from there.” By one o’clock, all the students had gone home.

Students who did not come to school on that day were marked absent with an excuse code of 5, which means the principal has excused their absence.

The Buildings and Grounds staff here at Burbank Middle School worked hard to clean up before students returned. They were on campus the following Friday, Saturday and Sunday. They repeatedly cleaned the outdoors, including sweeping and trying to get up as much of the debris as possible.

Then they also cleaned indoors, wiping down every surface and making sure everything was clean. Finally, all the filters were replaced in the HVAC system so that we would breathe clean air once we returned. Many Classrooms received high quality HEPA air purifiers.



Mrs. Moore said, “The people that work here to keep our campus clean worked incredibly hard to get our school ready to come back.”

## Get To Know a Teacher: Mrs. Cordoba

By Mia Saldana and Jocelyn Diaz

Today let's get to know Mrs. Cordoba! Mrs. Cordoba is a 6th grade Math teacher and has a 6th grade advisory. She started her career



at Angeles Mesa Elementary School in South Los Angeles. Then she

got married and moved to Texas and taught at Quail Valley Elementary. She was also an assistant teacher at different schools.

Mrs. Cordoba decided to become a teacher because she loves helping people and being around them. She has been teaching for ten years. When asked about her favorite thing about teaching Math, she said, "I love to see the Aha! moments when it clicks in their head."

Mrs. Cordoba started teaching Math by accident. She wanted to teach English, but ended up falling in love with Math and said she would never want to teach another subject. We asked 6th grader Emma Varelas, a student from Ms. Cordoba's math class and homeroom, what her favorite part of class is. She said, "Probably finishing up my work, because I understand it." It is always great to have a teacher who can help you understand.

## Get to Know a Teacher: Ms. Martinez

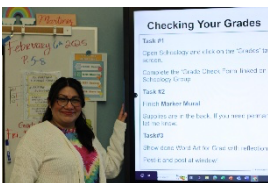
By Sophia Bernal and Jayla Diaz

You may think you know Ms. Martinez, but do you really know her? Ms. Martinez is a seventh grade Math teacher and an eighth grade Art advisory teacher. Ms. Martinez is a very creative outdoorsy person.

Speaking of her being a creative person, she loves doing arts and crafts. Painting is also one of her favorites and she shares her hobbies with her eighth-grade advisory class.

Ms. Martinez also used to do sports. She was a soccer player and did Jiu Jitsu. Not everyone knows this, but she was training to be an Olympic figure skater.

Ms. Martinez loves traveling and going to new places. She is also a mother and has two talented kids, Aiden and Adrien.



## CAP Funds Enable Field Trips around LA

By Celeste Marroquin and Maiya Waller

Are you interested in any of the field trips coming up? Or are you going on one of them? These field trips are exciting, but there's a lot that goes on for them to happen.

There is special funding for field trips. It's called the Cultural Arts Passport (CAP). The Cultural Arts Passport provides a list of interesting places that the students can be sent. These trips are open and available to anyone at our school regardless of grade. The funding is being used for any art

focused trip. For example, this funding was used for the Wicked field trip as well as a field trip to the Armory Center of the Arts.

We also have field trips that are not funded by CAP. The entire seventh grade is going to be going to the LA River over the course of four days. Other students could possibly be going to the La Brea Tar Pits, but they still need to find dates.

For parents to volunteer, they must fill out an online application form. They also must submit a tuberculosis test. Any parents that are official volunteers go on field trips to help. They also help with dances, events, and in the parent center.

## Students React to Fire's Effects with Kindness

By Miranda Lopez and Benjamin Feinberg

While the Highland Park neighborhood was not in danger from fires, many students were affected by what happened. Seventh Grader Jayla Quinones said, "My power went out, so me and my mom went to go buy flashlights. We were worried." Seventh grader Bryden Landberg said, "My power went out when I was showering. When I got out, I was shocked, everything was pitch black. My family gathered our things and went to my grandma's house." Many students experienced power outages and high winds.

After hearing of the effects of the fire in Altadena, LBMS Congress launched a campaign to support the community. Congress collected gift cards and thank-you cards for first responders, and asked the school community to donate supplies for students and schools that were directly affected.



## Students Get Broadway Experience at Wicked

By Dominick Reyes and Natalie Robles

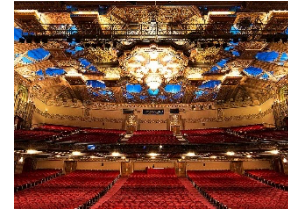
On Friday, January 24th, Burbank students went to see Wicked at the Pantages Theater in Hollywood. The field trip was planned by Mrs. Feinberg. Sixth, seventh, and eighth graders all attended after school.

Over 100 students went, and many attended with their



parents. Mrs. Feinberg said, "We had really good seats."

Students had a lot to say about the performance. Seventh grader Hazel said, "I liked the musical because I was able to enjoy it with my friends. I also haven't seen the movie before, so it was nice to see it for the first time. Everyone said it was supposed to be really good, and it was really good. It was nice to see the architecture [of the theater]."



## New Years Resolutions

By Scarlett Rodriguez and Sophia Ramirez

It's 2025! That means new year, new you. So, what is your new year's resolution? Ms. Kennedy, one of our school's physical education teachers, said, "My new year's resolution is to work out more." She also came up with her resolution because the other teachers started working out and wanted to join too. She added, "I'm going to accomplish this by going to the gym and eating less junk food."

Michael Proa, a seventh grader, said, "I want to get closer with some of my friends." He added, "I can do that by talking to the friends I'm not as close with."



Emilee Lunar, another 7th grader, said, "My resolution is to get more sleep." She says she started to get sleepier during the day. She added said, "I'm going to accomplish that by setting an alarm, so I know when to go to sleep and wake up in the morning."



What is your resolution and how has it been going?