



Mendez Minutes

Mendez Fundamental Intermediate School

Edition 2 Friday, January 17, 2025

Introducing *Quote of the Month*

By: Josue & Romeo

Mendez's Journalism 7 Staff wants all of you to stay encouraged and motivated with a new quote each month. Journalists, Josue & Romeo, offer you this quote for the month of January. ***"Take the opportunity to learn from your mistakes: find the cause of your problem and eliminate it"*** - Tony Robbins

Next issue: February 2025

Meet the staff:

Teacher/Editor: Ms. Elmore

Copy Editor: Mrs. Cortes

7th Grade:

Belen Cabanas

Brandon Diaz

Noemi Garcia Haro

Elias Giron

Isaac Gonzalez Lopez

Melany Guadarrama

Santiago Huerta

Jacob Martinez

Alexandria Melgoza

Andrew Molina

Genesis Mora

Joana Ortiz

Angel Ramos

Josue Rios

Camila Santos

Romeo Velasquez

Aiden Villagomez

Jayden Zerecero

Feature Article **Parents = Inspiration**

By: Aiden

Dr. Ponce was raised in Orange County and attended Valley High School. Dr. Ponce knew that she wanted to be an educator and administrator ever since she was a child, *"...Because my dad had never been taught how to read and write, and my mom was only able to go to school until the sixth grade. So I knew I wanted to go to college, and get a degree in education."* Her parents are her inspiration to be here, and she wants to spread that inspiration to the Mendez Mustang scholars.

She has been an administrator for six years! She had been an Assistant Principal for two years at Madison Elementary, and she has been an Assistant Principal here at Mendez Fundamental for four years! Dr. Ponce loves spending time with her family which includes hiking and going to the beach. In her free time she also enjoys reading! A fun fact about her is that she is the oldest of two siblings, a brother and sister, and they are a very close family! In fact, both Dr. Ponce and her sister both work at schools in Santa Ana Unified School District! Dr. Ponce has advice for all Mendez Mustangs, *"...Continue to set up goals for yourself, persevere and strive for the best; you*

Announcements **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day!**

By: Jayden

We celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday 20 January. President Ronald Reagan signed a bill to make Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day a federal holiday on November 2, 1983. This first holiday was first observed on January 20, 1986.

Dr. King was known for his "I Have a Dream" speech where he advocated for racial equality.

We are grateful for Dr. King as he helped to change history!

New Year Resolutions!

By: Belen

Happy New Year, Mustangs! Journalism 7 would like to offer you **five resolutions** for this second semester.

1. Copy your classwork and homework everyday for every class.
2. Get more sleep! You need 6- to 8-hours of sleep every night.
3. Stop all bad habits! We do not want you to get into any trouble with teachers or Administrators.
4. Find a better balance between studying and free-time. You need at

Feature Story

Meet Mrs. Yvette Cortes!

By: Elias

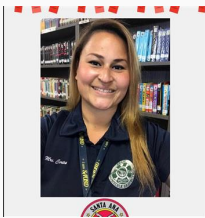
Mrs. Cortes loves her job as Library Media Technician at Mendez!! In this role, her main job is to help scholars check-out library books and assist them with academic research. If you need a hand, stop by the library and talk with Mrs. Cortes. She is a kind and gracious staff member who wants to see Mendez Mustangs soar.

Prior to her arrival at Mendez, Mrs. Cortes attended the following schools: Doig Intermediate and Santiago High School in Garden Grove and Santa Ana College.

Mrs. Cortes values family time and loves to hike.

Mrs. Cortes is also a flautist and would enjoy sitting-in with the Mendez Band if they would need another woodwind player.

In this second semester, she has joined Mendez Minutes as Copy Editor!



Mrs. Yvette Cortes

Go, Mendez!

By: Isaac

Mendez Fundamental Intermediate is hosting a fundraiser this month.



Where? Chipotle

1313 W. 17th Street Suite A
Santa Ana, CA 92706

When? Wednesday 22 January 2025
4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

are the future, so be the best you can be in the career you want to pursue."

Assistant Principal, Dr. Magaly Ponce



Feature Story

Meet Mr. Vladimir Terrones!

By: Alexandria & Ms. Elmore

Mr. Terrones, Social Science teacher, is one of our new Mendez teachers for the 2024 - 2025 academic year.

Mr. Terrones has been teaching for two years. He was inspired to become a teacher by his history teacher and AP (Advanced Placement) coach at Anaheim High School.

When Mr. Terrones is not in the classroom, he enjoys boxing with his trainer.



Mr. Vladimir Terrones

Shout-Out to . . .

Mr. Jeff Wozniak

By: Joana & Brandon

As a Mendez teacher of 24-years, Mr. Wozniak loves to "play fearfully". His history teacher at Pacific High School inspired him to become a teacher.

A few facts that you may not know about Mr. Wozniak:

1. He is a father of two kids—one plays baseball and the other

least 60-minutes or more of studying time to be on track with all of your classes.

5. Keep a healthy lifestyle! We do not want you to become seriously ill because of bad choices (e.g. smoking, vaping, or using any other harmful drugs).



Mendez Cheerleaders 2024 - 2025



Note: Two cheerleaders were absent on the day that this squad photo was taken.

By: Camila & Genesis

Here is the **2024-2025 Mendez Cheerleading Squad**. The cheer coaches, Ms. Palencia and Ms. Torres, are happy to work with these amazing athletes.

Are you interested in joining the Cheerleading Team next year? Here are the steps to becoming a Mendez cheerleader:

1. Learn the audition dance or cheer.
2. Practice, practice, practice!!
3. Attend the audition and do your best!

Why? 25% of the sales will be donated to the cause
What? Order Online for Pick-Up using Code: TRLRM22

Mendez Sports Corner

Baseball

By: Andrew

The Mustangs Baseball team is rising-up and destroying any team that comes in their path to win the championship. There are **two more games on January 21 and 22** to secure their spot in the playoffs. The 15 Mustang players are ready. Diego is the team's star player. He throws gas and is an incredible hitter. One of the Mustangs rising players is Max who runs amazingly fast and is leading off for the batting order. Micheal is one of our RBI machines and hits pure triples. A special thanks to the baseball team's coaches, Mr. Wozniak and Mr. Sharar, for all their hard work and dedication to our Mendez Mustangs. Let's wish the Mendez team the best of luck. Way to go, Mustangs!

Street Hockey

By: Santiago

Imagine the sound of a puck being hit by a stick, feeling the wind in your hair as you run down the court, and the feeling of scoring a goal with friends and family cheering for you. This sport is called Street Hockey. Street hockey is one of the many amazing sports we have here at Mendez Fundamental!

The **tournament for street hockey is going to take place at Valley High School on 1 February.**

Let's wish our Street Hockey team the best of luck!

- plays Lacrosse.
- He loves DIY projects that require him to construct and/or rebuild!
- He's superstitious. When he fills-up his car with gas he stops at a certain dollar amount (probably not \$13.00)!

Mr. Wozniak's advice for Mendez scholars: **". . .always be friendly to people because you won't know who you may need in life later on".**



Mr. Jeff Wozniak

Did You Know?

By: Belen & Jacob

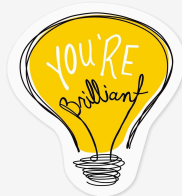
There's a birthstone for every month of the year! January's stone is a **garnet**, which is a deep red color. A beautiful garnet stone symbolizes friendship and trust.

January has so many fun days!

January 4th is National Spaghetti Day! What's your favorite spaghetti topping?



January 24th is Compliment Day. Complimenting someone could turn their frown upside down!



Mendez Cheerleaders will perform at the Spring Renaissance Assembly. Show your school spirit by cheering for them!!

Community Events

What can you and your family do in January?

By: Isaac

Here are a couple events happening in our Santa Ana community this month
Tét Lunar New Year Festival

Where: Centennial Park

3000 W. Edinger Park

Santa Ana, CA 92704

When: Saturday January 25 from 1:00PM - 6:00PM

Details: Celebrate the Year of the Snake with this fun, family event. This event will include cultural dancing, exhibits, food vendors, a library lane, kids zone, and fireworks show.

Price: Free

More Info: Go to:

<https://www.santa-ana.org/event/tet-lunar-new-year-festival-2025/>

Friday Night Munchies

Where: Open Air Street Fair

1301 S. Bristol Street

Santa Ana, CA 92704

When: Every Friday

6PM - 10PM

Details: Open-air street food fair that's kid and pet-friendly.

More Info:

[https://www.travelsantaana.com/event/friday-night-munchies-\(night-market\)/173/](https://www.travelsantaana.com/event/friday-night-munchies-(night-market)/173/)

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