

# Astro Blast

June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017



## Next Week at Carr (6/19-6/23)

6/19	Monday	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Trip to Knott's	
6/20	Tuesday	Promotion Practice	8:20 am
6/20	Tuesday	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Ice Cream Social	1 pm
6/21	Wednesday	Promotion	Godinez, 9-11
6/22	Thursday	Staff Breakfast	
6/22	Thursday	ILT	10:30

Thanks to all of the staff for finishing the year strong with high expectations for all of our students. I foresee us starting the school year even stronger next year with our common expectations for our students both inside and outside of the classroom. I hope that we continue to have improved communication. I have witnessed so many of you being outside, enforcing expectations, and I have also seen that our students are rising to these expectations. I feel very fortunate to have such a wonderful staff that is so dedicated to our students' academic, social, and emotional success. As some of you know, three students, Alexis Martinez, Christopher Mendoza and Nathan Rodriguez found and turned in \$15 at the Carrnival. I believe we are making a positive difference as demonstrated by these students showing the CARR values. I'm really looking forward to all of the continued positive changes we make in our students' lives next school year.

From left to right: Nathan Rodriguez, Alexis Martinez, and Christopher Mendoza



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Sandra Pedraza was going to nursing school and working in the medical field when her mother was diagnosed with breast cancer, and after 1 ½ years, her mom lost the battle to cancer. Soon after that, her father also died of a stroke. Sandra's mother had been helping to take care of her daughters, so as a single mother, Sandra looked for a new position which would allow her to pick up her daughters from school and to spend time with them. She put her nursing career on hold and found a position at Santa Ana Unified School District. Her two daughters graduated from high school, which for Sandra has been a great accomplishment, having raised two daughters on her own while working. Her older daughter is 25 and has her AA degree. However, she would like to focus on Ministry long term. Her younger daughter is 24 and will be finishing her last prerequisite course before going to nursing school hopefully in the fall. Sandra's grandson, Dominic, is "the most beautiful boy in the world."

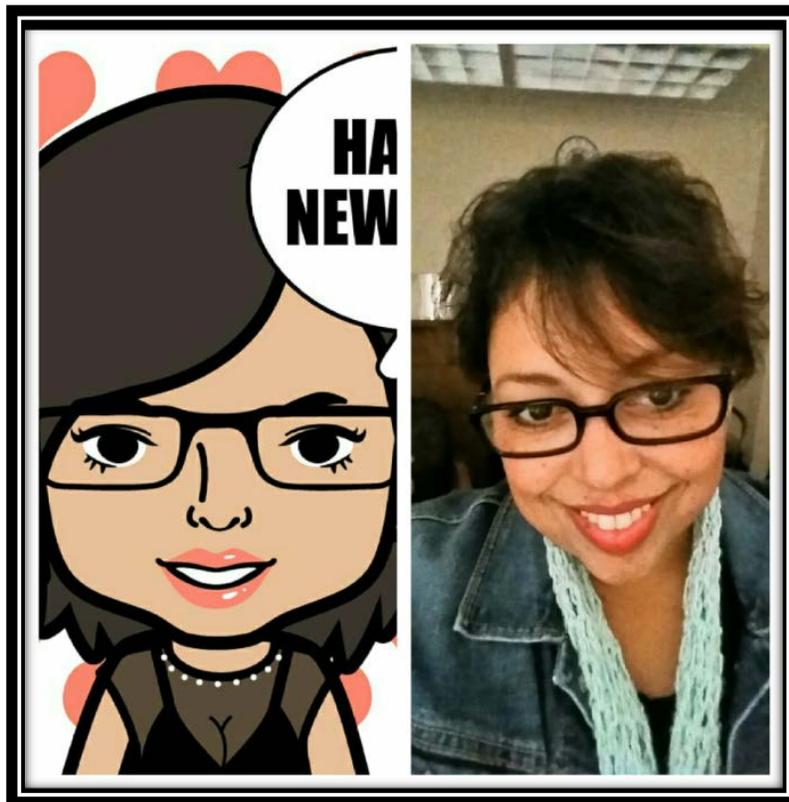
On the weekends, Sandra is involved with Field Ministry. She preaches and gives bible studies. She is involved with the Vietnamese Congregation, which means that she takes a 1 hour Vietnamese language class on Saturdays, then volunteers to introduce the Bible to Vietnamese families throughout Southern Orange County. She has learned a lot about the Vietnamese culture by being involved with these activities, and she also attends the Vietnamese service where she tries to understand as much of the language as she can.

In her free time, Sandra also loves being in nature. On Wednesdays, she goes hiking with her family to places like Peters Canyon. However, she loves camping and she and her family take trips spontaneously to places like the Sequoias, Yosemite and most recently a few months ago out to the desert. While some members of her extended family have trailers, she prefers to be outside in the wilderness and stay in tents. Sandra's other great love and passion is babysitting Dominic.

Sandra is greatly connected to the city of Santa Ana. Except for three short years when she lived in Garden Grove, Sandra has lived in Santa Ana her whole life. She attended Santa Ana High School and Mountain View High School, which used to be where Godinez is now. She has seen plenty of changes in Santa Ana, and she and her 3 brothers and sister are close. Sandra is a true survivor and knows that it is possible to be successful no matter what she goes through.

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June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017



Veronica Garcia started in Santa Ana in 2008 subbing in the position of Student Support Paraprofessional at Valley. She was fortunate to be hired into a position at Carr by Mr. Patrick and in March of 2016 she started working in the library as Library Media Tech. What Veronica loved about working as a Paraprofessional was being with the students. However, she loves being an LMT because she has a lot of variety in the tasks that she does, and even though it is physically demanding, she is able to still spend time with students before and after school and at lunch. Everything she does is for the students, including providing them with the prefixes of the week in the library and decorating the library beautifully for every season.

She has two beautiful boys, which she claims to be more beautiful than Dominic, but only because they were around first. ;) She is also in school full time as a psychology major. On the side, she caters both Mexican and Italian food, less now, but once in a while. She started cooking by following the instructions of her grandmother and standing on a stool to reach the countertops and stove.

Veronica's favorite book and movie are Pride and Prejudice (Keira Knightley version), and she loves all romantic movies like When Harry Met Sally and Sleepless in Seattle. By others, she is known as "Hermosa Garcia", a really funny lady, "special" and "something else". And, we at Carr agree!