

## **DRAFT KIMBERLY HISTORY**

### **The First Years**

The Redlands School Board purchased the site on South Avenue for another elementary school. It was an orange grove in location that was “thinly settled.” and was built in 1956 for \$162, 952.00.

Kimberly Elementary School was dedicated on November 1, 1957. The dedicatory address was provided by Mrs. Max A. Cranmer, friend to Helen Cheney Kimberly, the school namesake. Mrs. Kimberly was noted to be a kindly considerate person who thought first of the comfort of others and helping with plans for a better community. Any project which offered a promise of opportunity for the advancement and development of young people she supported. Mrs. Kimberly was a lady who devoted herself to bringing out the best in women. She did so through her devotion to the Contemporary Club, helping it to become a strong organization and providing for women opportunities of self-improvement in the role of active citizens. Through Kimberly Juniors she strove to instill in the women leaders a sense of personal dignity, a desire to develop their talents, and a civic conscience. She was married to J.A. Kimberly, one of four founding members of the Kimberly-Clark Paper Company<sup>1</sup>. Together they had seven children. (Mary Kimberly Shirk was the youngest of the seven Kimberly children.) Cheney Kimberly died in Redlands on February 24, 1931.

The school started with murals of three llamas and three giraffes. Architects Ulmer and Rack desired murals to reflect a “built-in zoo.” The murals were designed by

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<sup>1</sup>What began with a \$30,000 investment and a converted flourmill has become an international corporation with assets totaling over 5 1/2 billion dollars with recognizable products such as Kleenex and Huggies.

Burdell Tenney, a draftsman of the firm. Tenney says these particular animals were chosen to fit the space size of the buildings but could have been some other animal just as easily. There was no special reason for using three in each panel except that he felt a family grouping would typify a school.

Kimberly's first principal was Schyler Phillips (who presided over both Kingsbury and Kimberly the year of 1957) and first kindergarten teacher included Mrs. Frank Tucker. The school opened with grades K-3rd grade. The Redlands Daily Facts noted that in 1956 the school population was zero (this was the year the first buildings were constructed). In 1957 the student population was 248.

In December of 1957 there was a flag ceremony and dedication in which the public was invited. It was noted that the school was built in 1956 and opened in the fall of 1957 with plans all ready to build rooms for 4th-6th graders. The school was to serve the area south of Crescent. The flag dedication featured gift of Assemblyman Jack Beaver of a United States flag flown over the California capitol. Special guests included the School Board, administrative personnel of Redlands Public Schools, the architects and members of the Kimberly family. An invocation was provided by the pastor of the First Congregational Church. A bugler assisted in the presentation of the flag by playing the song "To the Colors." Kimberly students provided the Pledge. After the principal introduced special guests and the dedication address occurred, a Benediction was provided by the pastor of Sacred Heart.

On May 17, 1957 The Facts noted that the school board finally gave a permanent name of Kimberly to the school. This name is reported as having been a "dark horse suggestion" having never been suggested prior to the meeting at which it was adopted.

Nor did the board discuss why the name was chosen. As a side note the proponent of the name, Mrs. Kimberly's friend's husband Trustee Rex Cranmer, was absent during the vote.

The Board did note that the name Kimberly was a good and distinctive name. It is a name appropriate to the heights neighborhood since Kimberly Crest is not far from the site.

Kimberly Elementary School is noted to be the first Redlands school to be named for a woman.

In February of 1958 the student population is noted to be 343 and one year later it is noted to be 385. This population increase is recognized by a story in The Facts titled, "New Schools Bring More Houses, More Pupils." The paper notes that Kimberly, built in an orange grove in an area sparsely populated will soon have a new subdivision with 54 lots within three blocks of the school. The writer comments that the clue to trend of development is the location of schools concluding that schools seem to precede development rather than follow it.

The school year of 1958-1959 saw Kimberly add 4th grade to the campus with students taught in portable classrooms pending building of additional structures.

Kimberly was frequently in the society and family columns during her early days of existence. The PTA was very active with meetings held in a former manner in members' houses. Charter members included the following:

Mr. and Mrs. John Hatfield  
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph D. Ares  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Farley  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Van Roekel  
Mr. and Mrs. E.F. Dibble  
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Woltman

Mr. and Mrs. Winthrop Coxe  
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Haight  
Mr. and Mrs. Harold H. Bartel  
Mr. and Mrs. Willam Schaafama  
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Stickney  
Mrs. and Mrs. Myrl Purvis  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Bartley  
Mr. and Mrs. Willam H. Bates  
Mr. and Mrs. Dean Currier  
Mr. and Mrs. Gordon C. Atkins  
Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Crook  
Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Dalzell  
Mrs. Milton E. Dreyer  
Mrs. L. J. Silberberger  
Mrs. John L. Paulus  
Mrs. F. E. Howard  
Mrs. W. M. Jordon  
Mrs. Katerine S. Van Dyke  
Mrs. Richard Povah  
Mrs. Joseph Bruggman  
Mrs. Willard Stewart  
Mrs. John Allen  
Mrs. John L. Creatura  
Mr. Schyler Phillips

This Charter PTA held a membership drive in 1957 growing to 261 members.

Though there was a membership drive contest, each child was a winner with one mom (Mrs. Bartel) baking cupcakes for each student in the school. The major money raising activity was the Halloween carnival on which \$137.44 was made. They ran booths at Smiley and Kingsbury since many parents had older children in those schools and would only be able to attend one carnival. The other major fundraiser was a book fair in connection with Kingsbury totaling \$37.80. The PTA began with fits from Kingsbury and Smiley PTAs of \$50 each.

Kimberly's first year of PTA meetings were noted to be very social. One meeting entirely consisted of entertainment from Mrs. Tucker's kindergarteners. Mrs. Tucker had

a special talent of teaching and directing in the art of singing. "So for 45 minutes these precious, wide-eyed 5 year olds entertained a more than capacity audience." The PTA had a youth coordinator for activities under which a Kimberly Cub Pack was formed that grew to four active dens of third grade boys. The outgoing PTA meeting had a cruise theme of "crew" in which the outgoing president, Mrs. Howard was presented with a lovely large casserole dish.

It is noted that in 1959 the PTA served 409 members.

Most exciting was a Facts article from December 19, 1958 detailing how a first grader got caught in his desk necessitating an unplanned recess for his classmates. Redlands firemen labored to extract six-year old David Cook's finger and had to cut a piece of metal out with a power saw. David was freed after 45 minutes.

The 1958-59 school year ended with a Redwood tree planting ceremony in the front of the school. This tree was donated by Dr. and Mrs. John Paulus. Their two children John and Joan attended the school.

The decade ended with the Kimberly MPR built for \$128, 400.00. Architect C. Paul Ulmer was the designer and the building was constructed by R.P. Bidney.

### **The 1960s**

The 1960s saw a change from formality in the Historian books to an era adding more community insight. For instance, it was in 1960 a Civil Defense Panel was slated at Kimberly. The question, "What can be done to preserve life and health and to avoid hysteria in case of earthquake, fire, flood or nuclear attack?" was faced by a panel of eight experts. Mrs. Robert A. Covington, Kimberly PTA civil defense chairman, stressed

that the meeting and others to follow will provide the kind of information the schools and each family of the community needs to be prepared for any emergency. Panel participants came from the University of Redlands, Norton Air Force Base, the county and city, Dr. H. Fred Heisner, superintendent of Redlands Public Schools, and local PTA members including Kimberly PTA's own health chairman, Dr. Edwin N. Banta. The event was moderated by Glenn R. Snyder, prominent for his leadership in community activities and manager of the Arrowhead Springs Hotel Human Relations center.

The 1960s saw the addition of the Kimberly office building and last classroom wing to be built for \$106, 423.00 by R.P. Bidney Construction. This addition of a 5 classroom building could allow for 900 students to attend the school, it was thought.

In September 1960 that the district had it's biggest gain and Kimberly gained 109 new students. This was the year that Kimberly added grades fourth through 6th. Kimberly jumped from 392 students in 1959 to 501 students in 1960. In spite of new buildings and being a new school, Kimberly faced overcrowding in 1962. From 1963-1964 Kimberly's population jumped to 589, down from 642 of 1962-1963.

With the heightened concerns and continued building on the campus, the Cubs still had an environment of fun in education. 1962 was the year of the first Fall Carnival-expanding from prior years of Fall parades. And in 1967-68 the school library was established through persistent efforts of the PTA. A small room seating fifteen would be functioning as a library with at least 3000 permanent books to be available for circulation to students. More than 800 books were contributed by parents and children, and at least 24 women contributed more than 800 hours from November 1 to March 1 working as librarians.

In 1963 city officials agreed to pave a short cut to Kimberly for the safety and convenience of youngsters living east of Garden Street.

The 1960s showed the beginnings of our culture of being a welcoming school with open arms to our community members. For instance, when Kingsbury was not able to hold it's annual Fall Carnival, it's families were invited to enjoy Kimberly's (the Fall Festival having been fully established at Kimberly in 1962). Many children from Kingsbury were transferred to Kimberly in the late 60s due to the demolition of Kingsbury Elementary to make way for a safer school building<sup>2</sup>. Also, Kimberly was the home of the "Hard of Hearing" School from 1965-1966.

The Kimberly Library was established in 1968 in Room 15. Jim Bueerman is noted to have been a student in 1968-1969 and would later become Redlands' Police Chief.

The decade ended with a society column in The Facts describing the transfer of the Kimberly PTA Executive Board held in the home of Dr. Dombrowski on Knoll Rd. with a gift of a silver cream and sugar set to be used by the PTA for future meetings.

### **The 1970s**

The 70s started with a student population of 684 in 1971 decreasing to 654 in 1972. In 1973 these student numbers provided a PTA membership of 528.

The school year of 1972-1973 saw the first Kimberly yearbook. Students attending Kimberly included Mike Schuler, Jason McLeod, Scott Blankenship, Mark Dombrowski, and Patty Ford.

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<sup>2</sup>On Jan. 27, 1967, the 1925 Kingsbury replacement of the 1888 school closed because it did not meet earthquake code standards. The children transferred to other schools, including Kimberly.

In 1973 Principal Howard "Buzz" Wagner left for Lugonia having served Kimberly for 8 years. When he arrived at Kimberly from Cram he served dually as the principal for Mariposa, too. In late 1964 he solely became the principal for Kimberly.

It is noted that the mascot was the Cougar with school sweatshirts selling for \$3.50. PTA Membership was 50 cents. Lunch cost 45 cents.

The campus hosted it's own scout troops consisting of Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Brownies and BlueBirds.

The 1974 Kimberly lunch cost 50 cents, milk 8 cents and PTA membership was \$1.00. The PTA budget was set at \$1, 676.75 to assist a population of 545 students Kindergarten through 6th grade. The PTA held a Christmas boutique with homemade items for sale, a bake sale and gift wrapping. They assisted with the District PTA clothes closet located at the District Administration Building consisting of donated items for use by needy students. At this time the PTA met in Board member homes with their minutes published in the Daily Facts.

The new principal was Donald H. McIntosh or "Mr. Mac." The year began with an Open House starting at 7:30pm including refreshments for the parents.

Campus hours included: Kinder 1st session: 8:50am-11:50 am and 2nd session: 12:15pm-3:15pm. Grades 1-3 8:50am-1:55pm. Grades 4-6: 8:50am-3:15pm.

The school dress code directed: Dress neatly and keep themselves as clean as possible. An appearance which distracts from or interferes with the educational process is not acceptable.

Smog was a noted issue in the school handbook. Should .20 smog level be reached, all school-aged children must refrain from excessive physical exercise.

At this time Kindergarten (including Mrs. Tucker in Room K-1) lasted three hours and included instruction of letters, music, stories and nap time. First grade readiness was not determined by reading readiness or age but by emotional and social maturity. In this year the campus started a Montessori-like program. This was a non-graded program of randomly selected students. The program totaled 130 students of 2nd through 6th graders learning at their own speed, loosely structured, emphasizing individualized instruction and increased student responsibility. For instance, primary students could read at the upper grade instructional level and upper grade students could get refreshers from the primary grades. The library was staffed by parents.

Mike Westerfield is a noted student the year 1974-1975 as is Scott Larson, a present day bagpipe player. Other students included Eric Fraser, Julie Armentrout, the Hoepfner family and the Knobler family.

In 1975 The KimberLetter was published and included poems/rhymes made up by the Principal. Helen Hurley and Mrs. Tucker made The Facts on March 7, 1975 as Honorary Service recipients. The 6th grade graduation party was held on May 30th and consisted of a bus ride to Sylvan Park at 9am with a swim in the University pool, a bus ride to Ford Park and then at 2:30pm walk to Kimberly campus. PTA provided food and drinks to the children and they were advised to not bring their own lunches, nor cameras, radios nor water guns. The last day of school was June 12.

The PTA membership dues remained at \$1 with a membership drive providing the winning class a 16 foot banana split. The Fall carnival continued with a parade at 4:30pm, judging of costumes at 4:45, spaghetti dinner from 5-7pm, booths open from 5-8pm and a 6th grade Haunted House.

The Heinze family attended Kimberly.

In the year of 1976-1977 the PTA no longer included a civil defense position. Kimberly had 495 students and the PTA budget sat at \$2, 291.50. It is noted that Dr. Gordon Power of Loma Linda University varnished all 83 classroom doors after sanding them. This year also saw vandalism at the school. Nine classrooms' windows were smashed by rocks causing \$370 in damage. The last day of school was June 16th.

The first day of school for 1977-1978 school year was September 12th and last day was June 15th. Kimberly also had summer school scheduled from June 21-July 21, however due to last minute lacking of funds this was cancelled. The student population was 450 students. A school advisory group was established to discuss much needed upgrades for Kimberly- \$50,000 in site and maintenance upgrades was necessary. This was also the year that Mrs. Tucker retired.

Kimberly hosted an Occupational Program on campus to offer services to autistic children aged 5-10 years with no more than 6 students per class.

Kimberly had a famous student attending this year- John Paul Leeming, an actor in Paramount Pictures "Michael" based on the novel "The Heritage" by Colin Leinster.

In this year the city council recommended turf for the playgrounds and schools of Crafton and Kimberly. The agreement was that the schools would maintain the turf if the City provided water at no cost. "Kimberly was notorious for the lack of turf." The city would fund the project with \$25,000 state grant under an Open Spaces Act and the district would pay \$6,000 in matching funds.

In the school year 1978-1979 the PTA budget was \$2, 340.50 with PTA membership at 333. Yard duty staff were paid \$2.71 per hour. Parents of Kimberly

donated rugs, tricycles, wagons, blocks and puzzles to the multi-handicapped student classrooms.

The water agreement with the City for turfing the campus was passed by the city council by 3-2 in October of 1978.

And the school mascot was changed to the Cubs in September. The school colors would be voted on changing from green and gold and a school banner were also established this year as part of a school spirit campaign.

There was also a shifting of school boundaries causing Kimberly to lose five portable classrooms.

This year saw the discontinuing of the “parent corner” at the Fall Festival- a space set aside for parent socializing in the MPR. Also, spaghetti dinner at Fall Festival was discontinued. Instead PTA sold hot dogs, chili, salads, drinks and desserts.

The school year of 1979 saw the start of Kindergarten with 32 kindergarteners. The turf promised by the City was not provided. The City decided instead to spend those available funds to build a restroom facility at Sylvan Park. New Principal Stanley Snyder began.

### **The 1980's**

The Kimberly Historian books provide less information about the culture and happenings at Kimberly than prior decades. It is highlighted that the school celebrated it's 25th anniversary in 1982-1983. The school calendar themed the year “Color Me Kimberly” and featured student drawings. This calendar was offered for sale at the Fall Open House.

In 1982-1983 the school painted murals had yet to exist. Further, the Kimberly landscaping still was largely dirt fields.

Also, it was decided not to host a Fall Festival. Instead the PTA provided a movie festival and chili feast with a 6pm costume parade. Admission was charged to attend this event. The PTA focused their event planning on their first and only Cinco de Mayo celebration with booths and helicopter and pony rides.

1982 was the year our Kimberly Chorus was created! Carole Beswick was the creator.

In 1983 Jerry Meeker became Kimberly's principal. Families attending the school included the Sorensons (still present today with next generation!) and Fashempours. Also attending were the Maibergers, Snowwhites and Flowers. This was the year that our colors changed from Green and Gold to Blue and Silver.

1983 Kimberly school became modern with the addition of six Apple IIe computers! One of these was donated by Apple.

Community activities still took place on campus, including being the home to Girl Scout Troop 313- known as Kimberly's troop. Also, on March 19, 1984 the Dangermond Nursery donated 12 white alder trees to be placed on the playground and lunch area.

A fundraiser was started for turf.

The decade of the 80s saw the tradition of the Friday Flag Ceremonies continue.

### **The 1990's**

The 1990s show familiar names in attendance at Kimberly. Lisa Dangermond attended 1st grade from 1990-1991 and Mrs. Sousa taught David Paxman. The

Churchill family was also in attendance<sup>3</sup>. Current Kimberly Office Manager, Becky Valdez, is still a close friend to the Churchills.

In 1991 a bus lane was created in the front of the school removing parking spaces. There were still no murals in the cafeteria. The PTA's fundraiser was a spell-a-thon.

The Kimberly Yellow Playground was not yet metal but featured a metal slide.

1992 saw the addition of yard duty attendants Rose and Linda. Helen Pierce also served the campus and the Principal was De Landtsheer (Mr. De". Teachers also included Mr. Hassett and Mrs. Drake. The Fall Festival was held from 12-5pm featuring a wagon ride with Clydesdale horses!

The 1993 school year began on September 7th lasting through June 16th. The hours were the following: AM Kindergarten: 7:45am-11:06am; PM Kindergarten (including a bilingual kindergarten classroom): 10:04am-1:45pm; grades 1-6: 7:45am-1:45pm.

The library was located in Room 15. Hot lunch could be purchased for \$1.25 with milk at 25 cents. Eighty percent of Kimberly's students rode the bus daily.

In 1993 the flag ceremonies changed to Monday Mornings. PTA funded transportation for ALL field trips, assemblies and classroom supplies. The PTA dues were \$3.50. Robyn Romney Evans was involved with PTA at this time and will be

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<sup>3</sup>Danny Churchill, quarter mile speed ski record holder, obtained the rights to Glide Slide in 1974. For the next few years Churchill redesigned the Glide Slide to reduce drag and make it more stable. In the winter of 1988-1978 he introduced his new board, now renamed the Hydroslide. He switched from blow molding the plastic shells to rotomolding them and the first Hydrosides went on sale for \$49.95.

returning as a Kimberly grandparent in 2018! Edie Schmidt joined as librarian and Gay Richards joined on faculty.

The PTA began their once infamous Sally Foster gift wrap fundraising. And with paint donated by Redlands Pain whale murals were painted near the kindergarten classrooms and Elements of Learning murals were added to the upper playground.

1993 was also the start of the now retired Brig Pilgrim Ship trip whose last Kimberly “sail” occurred in 2014.

Community activities continued with the Common Clothes Closet for the District. Reading month provided entertainment from The King’s Court Players presenting *Charlie and The Chocolate Factory*. And a new yellow playground was added to the Kimberly campus.

The campus still retained wooden classroom doors in 1993. And it was in January of 1994 that bicycle helmets became required for all riders under 18 years of age.

The 1993-1994 school field trips included:

1st grade: County Museum

4th grade: Gold Rush and Redlands’ Tour

5th grade: The Living Desert

6th grade: Science Camp

This school year also saw technological upgrades with funding from School Site and a Tech grant. Kimberly was able to purchase a MacIntosh computer for the upper grades as part of a Desktop Publishing Center.

This year also saw the continuing tradition of a softball game between 6th graders versus faculty and parents. The game started at 8:15am and lasted until 9:30am as part of graduation festivities.

The Kimberly fitness course was started with major fundraising by the PTA. The PTA also sponsored parent seminars on various evenings with topics ranging from discipline, sibling rivalry to raising responsible children. Kimberly PTA hosted Kimberly clean-up days, too. These days involved painting bathrooms and upgrading murals.

The school in 1994-1995 is noted to not yet have an outdoor eating area. However, the whale mural was completed for enjoyment of the 561 students. And Kimberly's Fitness Course was installed on February 1995.

The 1994 fall festival began at 12pm and lasted until 4:30pm.

The school added additional murals including a children's literature mural in the library painted by the principal and a local 7th grader.

It is mentioned that Kimberly family the Barichs were featured on a TV game show.

And in 1995 Kimberly was named a Distinguished School.

In 1995-1996 Mrs. Schrier was added as a faculty member. The Fall Festival entertainment was Mr. Hassett's rock band. This was the school year that the Kimberly MPR mural was painted by middle school student Joel Luelwitz with assistance by the principal, Mr. De.

This would be the last year Mr. De was to lead Kimberly. He left to Mariposa. Bob Hodges, the District Superintendent, felt change was good and new leadership

invigorated a school. Mr. Cencirulo became the new principal having transferred from McKinley.

In 1995 the 4th graders traveled on an annual trip to Sacramento. They flew out in the morning and returned the same night.

On Flag Day in June of 1996 the school received a new US flag as a gift from the Lions presented on behalf of Congress. This flag was celebrated ceremoniously at 7:45am-8:15am with remarks by then Congressman Jerry Lewis, Council member Gilberto Gil, Community Officer Jim Mead, the Principal as well as from the publisher of The Daily Facts, Todd Bush. When the flag was raised the Lions provided a bugler to mark the occasion.

The 90s decade ended with Mrs. Paxman joining the faculty in 1996-1997. This was the last year the campus hosted a 6th grade. 1998-1999 saw the publication of Kimberly's first yearbook and the inception of our annual Kimberly Turkey Trot. 1999 also is noted to be our first Team championships at the Mt. Sac Cross Country Invitational. This tradition would carry on until 2018 when the Mt. Sac Invitational no longer sought teams from the elementary school level. And Kimberly held it's first ever Science Night during the school year of 1999-2000 (now on it's 18th year!).

### **The 21st Century**

#### **The Aughts**

Kimberly Elementary began the 21st century with 553 students. Matthew Osmond, a Fall 2000 student teacher on campus with Mrs. Sousa and Mrs. Alexander would come back to Kimberly as Principal in 2013 where he is often fondly called "Mr. O."

Karen Kirchner led the PTA with meetings beginning at 7:05pm with membership fees of \$3.50. A community preschool class utilized Room 6.

Kimberly PTA's Fall Festival ran from 4pm to 8pm and introduced the climbing haystack tradition which lasted until 2014 when it was phased out due to injury concerns. Also, this year the Kimberly Holiday program moved from the MPR to Clock Auditorium. And Kimberly held it's second annual Science Night.

The Peace Leaders program started in the Fall of 2000 as did the school's Master Gardener Program. In honor of the peace building program the gardening club planted a Redbud tree by the mailbox (which used to be to the left of the principal's parking spot or right of the MPR, if you were facing the buildings). This mailbox no longer exists due to a weekend accident by an unknown community driver approximately in the year 2011.

In this year teacher Gay Richards took part in a teacher exchange program with a teacher from England. Mrs. Richards spent the year in England and her counterpart spent the year at Kimberly.

New swings were added to the playground off of Henrietta. Unfortunately, the swings and jungle gym were not OSHA compliant and under advisement for removal.

In 2000-2001 the exterior trim around the school was painted blue. This year a shade structure was sought by the PTA. The PTA also purchased risers for the school.

In 2001-2002 the PTA was led by Karen Walsh. The PTA began the tradition of a welcoming Ice Cream Social to start the school year. The school also ran two fall fundraisers! The PTA fundraised by selling gift wrap. The teachers fundraised for field trips by selling cookie dough.

Kimberly held its third annual Turkey Trot. The students attempted to beat Redlands High School's top Varsity Cross Country and track runners who were dressed with feather dusters for tails. Parent Bob Harber surprised everyone when he showed up in a turkey suit to be chased by the students. This suit was then traditionally worn by a parent for all of the Turkey Trots until speedy Principal Osmond bravely volunteered to take on this task in 2013.

In the spring of 2002 reading month kicked off with green eggs and ham served at breakfast for all students as they ate listening to community readers. This was also the start of the Kimberly Character Parade!

The Spring Fundraiser to assist with school field trips was a raffle for the chance to win student-made quilts.

This was also the year the Kimberly Gardens were created by the kindergarten classrooms.

Kimberly's principal in 2002-2003 was Cynthia Quezada. Karen Walsh continued as the PTA President and Robyn Romney Evans (1st cousin to politician Mitt Romney) was the Vice President in charge of Fall Festival. (Robyn returns to Kimberly in 2018-2019 as a grandparent!) The PTA goal was to update the school computer lab. PTA membership fees were noted to be \$5.00. The PTA sold Kimberly T-shirts based on a student design chosen from a school wide contest.

The school year began on September 3rd. Room 15 was noted to be the Library location. Hot lunch was sold for \$1.75. The school had an on-site school psychologist, Cathy Siglow.

Kimberly's Code of Conduct includes the following: keep hands, feet and objects to self; speak kindly and discourage name calling, profanity and teasing; use your words to prevent problems; follow established playground game rules; have many Kimberly friends; observe door opening safety circles; do not play in the restrooms; and no gum allowed on school grounds.

In 2002 Kimberly school had a Campus Corps Program wherein students were encouraged to take pride in their school by picking up litter and ensuring cleanliness. All students at Kimberly are responsible for the maintenance of our beautiful campus. Students in grades K-5 are asked to take part in the Campus Corps program, under the supervision of Campus Monitors, two or three times a year for approximately 1/2 hour each time. Students may weed flowerbeds, pick up papers, sweep walkways, etc. This program brings home the point that this school is OUR SCHOOL and we are responsible for its loving care.

The following was the school dress code: During warm weather students may wear light weather clothing, including shorts. The midriff area needs to be completely covered. Garments with violent, suggestive or obscene statements are not permitted. Garments that depict or promote drugs, alcohol or tobacco are not appropriate. Identified gang attire, such as bandanas, hairnets or hairrollers, or any other gang paraphernalia are prohibited. No clothing depicting logos from the Raiders, Kings or Georgetown may be worn at school because they are associated with gang attire. Baggy pants that hang down below the beltline may not be worn. Students may not dye or spray paint their hair without the permission of the principal. The purpose of these RUSD adopted Student Dress Code Guidelines is not to infringe upon any individual

student's rights to freedom of expression, but rather to encourage students to dress appropriately and come to school properly prepared for participating in the educational process in a safe learning environment.

Kimberly continued to excel in athletics at Mt. Sac and with 150 participants at the Mission Inn Run. Student Holly Resh<sup>4</sup>, aged 7, is one noted participant. She is the daughter of Tom Resh and Patty Peoples<sup>5</sup>.

Talk of moving the library from Room 15 to accommodate classroom upgrades and new portables started in January 2003.

The Spring Staff Appreciation celebration included flower arrangements made by Kimberly students involved with the Redlands Horticultural and Improvement Society Junior Garden Club.

This was the last year that Kimberly Elementary had an onsite computer teacher/technician.

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<sup>4</sup>Holly Resh, a 2013 graduate of Redlands High School, was an associate producer for the 2018 Winter Olympic Games, working out of the NBC Sports headquarters in Stamford, Conn. She helped to produce short highlight packages for [www.nbcolympics.com](http://www.nbcolympics.com) and promos seen on digital billboards in New York City. Before the Olympics, Resh was working as a story producer with NBC 7 in San Diego. Resh, who was a four-sport varsity honor athlete at RHS, graduated from UC San Diego in 2017 with a major in communication and an emphasis on digital media/TV production and minor in psychology. Before she graduated, she was an intern for the 2016 Summer Olympic Games with NBC Sports. (Redlands Daily Facts, February 15, 2018)

<sup>5</sup>Named an Athlete of the Year for 2015 by USA Triathlon. She also won the honor in 2011 and 2013. Her other achievements include:

2015:USA Triathlon No. 1 ranking in the United States for the duathlon (run/bike/run)

2013: Two National Duathlon Championship titles, defended Duathlon World Championship in the sprint distance. SINCE 2009: Two Duathlon World Championship titles, four Duathlon National Championship titles, ranked No. 1 nationally four years in her division; USA Triathlon All-American Duathlete five consecutive years.LIFETIME: Won more than 130 events since her first major title, East Coast Triathlon Champion in 1983. (Press Enterprise, March 7, 2014)

Kimberly PTA's end of year meeting continued to be privately hosted at a board member's home.

The PTA president in 2003-2004 was Beth Kolpien. The following students were noted to have begun kindergarten: Lauren Guggisberg<sup>6</sup>, Natalie Ruhl<sup>7</sup> and Paige McLeod<sup>8</sup>.

The 2003-2004 school year started on September 2nd with a Back to School Night held on the same date at 7pm. June 10th would be the last day of school.

This was the year that the classrooms were "modernized" and the Library moved to Room 16. The PTA meetings began at 7pm and membership consisted of 414 members.

Have you wondered how long the Peace Leader Rock Garden beneath the dinosaur murals (now the California landscape mural) has existed? That would be since 2003!

In 2004 Kimberly was once again named a Distinguished School. The award was based on active coordination of the PTA and the principal. The PTA was noted to be like another administrator on campus. Kimberly received another award with the assistance of Toni Momberger<sup>9</sup>. Kimberly was awarded the National Scholastic Press Award for student newspapers. Kimberly received honors at the Optimist Track Meet where we

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<sup>6</sup> Daughter of Redlands Unified School District's Director, Fiscal Services Brian Guggisberg and Laurie Guggisberg.

<sup>7</sup> Daughter to current Kimberly Substitute Teacher and classroom volunteer, Amy Ruhl.

<sup>8</sup> Daughter to current Kimberly kindergarten teacher, Annie McLeod.

<sup>9</sup> Redlands Daily Facts Editor from August 22, 2011 to April 22, 2016 and Redlands City Council Member since November 21, 2017.

reigned as the Relay Race champions with stellar athlete Margaux Jones Humphrey who would go on to run for USC.

In 2007 Principal Marcia Fagan led Kimberly in a yearlong 50th Birthday celebration. The celebration included each grade dressing up in a different decade and reading from the popular children's books of the assigned eras.

In 2009-2010 Greg Fields led the PTA as President. He was the first and only male to serve in such a position at Kimberly Elementary up to this time and brought amazing activities to the school including the Kimberly Costume Drive (a program providing Halloween costumes to deserving students), the Kimberly Kampout (a night out under the stars for the school community- a program emulated and applauded by many other schools) and the Kimberly Fitness Night where local sports and exercise vendors led circuits on the blacktop of Kimberly with healthy snacks provided by local citrus farmers and Washington Produce. The Kimberly Culture Cubs were very active during Greg's tenure, too. Besides educational assemblies they hosted an annual Kimberly Cultural Ambassador tour around the classrooms where students and parents from different countries and cultures introduced traditions and foods to the school.

September 27, 2009 saw the addition of the upper playground! Nearly 200 volunteers worked to install the structure. Several clubs and organizations, including the Sunrise Rotary Club of Redlands, the Kimberly Elementary PTA, Schools First Credit Union, , the Buster family construction company, Assisteens and the Boy Scouts of America lent a hand. The PTA and parents raised \$5,000.00 for the project and Lowe's donated \$95,000.00. It was the first major community event Lowe's had sponsored. Lowe's appreciated the history of Redlands, and diversity and community involvement.

Also installed were new basketball hoops made out of a special material to educe damage done by those emulating the slam dunks of professional players. The unveiling of the playground took place on October 8th with a ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by local and national dignitaries /politicians and hundreds of paper rings made by the children of the school, each filled with a message thanking Lowe's.

The 2009 school year saw 11, 300 volunteer hours per the PTA Historian, Bonnie Garrick.

### **The 10s**

In February 2010 the Kimberly Cubs hosted an evening to discuss devastation in Haiti with personal experiences of two Kimberly parents, Carlo Alce and James Goss. It was the start of an assistance campaign on campus where the Kimberly Cubs compassion ran high and strong to aid in recovery.

Also in February the much anticipated "water feature" was installed. A pondless waterfall was constructed by Exotic Aquatics of Redlands at cost. It includes a waterfall and a twenty-foot stream, surrounded by rocks and plants. The waterfall was made possible from grants received from the Redlands Kiwanis, the Redlands Educational Partnership (REP) Foundation's "Seeds for Science," the Redlands Horticultural & Improvement Society, and others. The February 9th project even allowed students to actively dig and construct the feature!

Suzi Bildt<sup>10</sup> led the PTA for two years of the new decade. While serving the school Suzi carried on the now infamous Kimberly Kampout, refreshed many of the campus murals (the California desert scene was created by Suzi and her mother),

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<sup>10</sup> Beloved community volunteer, mom to Hannah and wife to Retired San Bernardino Chief of Police, Michael Bildt.

supported the start of a very successful Kimberly Destination Imagination Team that would go on to win Global Championship multiple years, fundraised for beautiful and functional blackout curtains for the MPR, started the process of installing a running track in the upper field and actively worked on Kimberly's very successful first Blood Drive in April of 2010 assisting our local blood bank, LifeStream, in honor of Kimberly student Keely Proctor, a second grader who had suffered from a severe accident.

Kimberly Elementary was awarded a third California Distinguished School recognition in 2010. Prior years included 2004 and 1995. In April of 2010 the school was also notified that it was the Spring 2010 National PeaceBuilder awardee!

The 2011 school year began on August 9, 2011 with the last day to be June 7th. PTA dues was \$5.50.

Kimberly continued to excel in sports with all six of it's teams, grades 3-5, placing in the top three and medalling at Mt. Sac. The 5th grade boys even set the course record by over one minute! Interestingly, Kimberly holds 4/6 course records for the meet in it's 20+ year history.

Kimberly held a second blood drive to support fourth grade student Cece Svenson, a student diagnosed with leukemia. She passed away in February of 2012. Her family dedicated Cece's Tree with two benches to Kimberly for students and families to sit and enjoy each other or to read a book.

At the end of the 2011-2012 school year Kimberly Elementary said goodbye to Mrs. Romo as she retired. Her beautiful artwork can still be found around the Kimberly campus- including one she made of Kimberly Crest hung in the office.

Cheryl Towers led the PTA from 2012-2013. She oversaw the March 2012 Esri donation of 40 new computers to the school computer lab. The school also was the recipient of new microscopes for the science classroom- a gift from a Kimberly Girl Scout Troop led by Suzi Billdt and Michelle Bottenberg.

Kimberly School experienced it's first school lockdown on November 27, 2012. This was due to a local home invasion robbery on Crescent Avenue. In spite of the use of police bloodhounds and multiple units scouting the area for the "bad guy," it wasn't until a Kimberly Family's chihuahua, Jewel, located him asleep in backyard ivy. Jewell became a city celebrity and was the Grand Marshall of the 2012 Redlands Christmas Parade! Since that date new procedures were put in place including locks on all gates to the school and simplified manuals directing teachers/staff on procedures to follow.

Kimberly student awesomeness continued with 5th grader Myla named the Ambassador of Purple Day for Epilepsy Awareness.

Principal Marcia Fagan retired at the end of 2012-2013. On May 23, 2013 Mrs. Fagan was surprised by a student "Flashmob" farewell to Katy Perry's song "Firework." Video of this event can be found on YouTube!

The last day of school for the school year was June 6th.

Kimberly gained a new principal for 2013-2014. Matthew Osmond, former student teacher for Kimberly, came back to lead the school. Principal Osmond, also fondly called Mr. O. Cheryl Towers continued as the PTA President. That year Kimberly held its last Blood Drive and involved more than 50 volunteer hours. The school saved over 600 lives since the blood drives began at the school in 2010. The PTA

Membership Drive theme was “Catch the Wave.” Awards continued for Kimberly with the California Business for Educational Excellence award.

Before the next school year began Principal Osmond achieved a goal when he put his foot to the pedal to embark on a month-long bike ride from Vancouver, Canada to the border of Mexico. The students followed him during the summer vacation as he shared his journey on social media.

As the new 2014-2015 school year started, Chrissy Fitch led the PTA as President. The first day of school was August 13th and the last day was June 11th. The PTA membership drive theme was “Mustache Mania” through which the PTA gained 400 members- the number awarded with a soaking of Mr. O!

Kimberly held it's last Costume Drive, the PTA deciding to serve the community in other areas. PTA dues increased to \$10.00 to accommodate increased contributions to council, district and state fees. Kimberly also held it's first annual Geography Night on August 29th! Kimberly was able to host the traveling map of National Geographic- a map that took up most of the floor space of the MPR.

Kimberly's fixtures improved greatly this year with the long anticipated installation of the Running Track! No more running in soggy grass and over gopher holes on the upper field with the need for a second pair of school shoes before entering classrooms so as not to track grass and mud onto the clean carpets. The track was inaugurated at the Ice Cream Social on August 15th.

This year was the first district sponsored BBQ lunch on February 20th. An outdoor grill served up freshly made burgers for the children opting for hot lunch.

Amazing Kimberly 1st grade student Landon Gable collected items for Family Services over winter break and was recognized by the Redlands Daily Facts for giving up his vacation for such a worthy cause.

The school held it's first Color-a-Thon on May 8th. This was a very fun event to run for 2 years where students raised money running through colored corn starch thrown at them on the running track. Though starting out in white T-shirts, the students ended covered in the colors of the rainbow. Unfortunately, PTA state rules changed and no longer allowed events of this type to continue.

Many staff members retired in 2015: Debbie Echternach, Suzanne Garcia, Anna Keegan and Gay Richards (who was in Kimberly's very first Kindergarten class!).

The 2015-2016 school year began with continued PTA leadership of Chrissy Fitch. Murals around the school were painted and refreshed. Additional picnic tables were added for student enjoyment under the shade structure. And Kimberly was noted to be #1 in the County . This was the year of the San Bernardino terrorist activity on December 2nd. It would be the 2nd time Kimberly would need to utilize a lockdown procedure. It was a sad day for our community with the loss of 14 lives. The last day of the school term was June 9th.

One of the best community building ideas and bonding activities started at Kimberly: One School, One Book. Mrs. Haskins obtained a grant to purchase a book for every student at the school to take part in a reading event akin to a school book club. This activity would be funded by the PTA in later years.

From 2016-2018 the PTA was led by Alisha Aguilar<sup>11</sup>. Alisha successfully contributed to the continued feeling of “family” on our Kimberly campus. The track was refurbished, the fitness course was upgraded due to the aid of former Kimberly student Ryan McCormick and his Eagle Scout project. Interestingly, Ryan’s great-grandfather, George Forsberg, helped build Kimberly Elementary School, being a licensed commercial engineering contractor based in Redlands.

Kimberly’s Diamond Jubilee was celebrated the entire school year of 2017-2018. Kimberly hosted almost monthly decade theme days where the students dressed up in the assigned decades attire and learned games and dances during lunchtime recesses. In honor of the 60th anniversary Kimberly school successfully raised funds to upgrade the library by adding more shelves to accommodate more books! A new playground was installed for the kindergarten area and funds were successfully raised to replace the “Yellow” playground by the portable classrooms. The Jubilee was celebrated on April 27th with a lunchtime BBQ, mapping club students leading tours using Esri’s ArcGIS Collector application, a ribbon cutting for the upgraded library, revelation of ceramic tiles painted by Kimberly families, students and community members, display of memorabilia in the MPR, a dance performance by the entire school and a flag ceremony attended by local and national dignitaries.

The school term of 2018-2019 will be led by PTA President Bronwyn Petersen, mom to two, Kimberly Chorus pianist, local attorney and business law professor at the University of Redlands.

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<sup>11</sup> Mom to Palmer and Evan Aguilar, University of Redlands employee, active community volunteer and wife to former City Council member and current member of Congress Pete Aguilar.

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## THE KIMBERLY SCHOOL SONG

Kimberly! Kimberly! The Cubs are here  
This is our pride, this is our cheer!  
Kimberly! Kimberly! to us be true  
As we exalt the White and Blue!

### **Personal Accountability**

We own ourselves that's our ability  
Our **Academics** are really high  
For our **Confidence** soars in the sky  
Our **Problem Solving** is our best  
Just look at our achievement tests  
**Sensitivity** shows in this song  
We brought Friendly Helpers to sing along!

Kimberly! Kimberly! The Cubs are here  
This is our pride, this is our cheer!  
Kimberly! Kimberly! to us be true  
As we exalt the White and Blue!

Oh, oh, oh, oh, oh! Kimberly! Kimberly! KIMBERLY!  
Oh, oh, oh, oh, oh! Kimberly! Kimberly! KIMBERLY!  
Oh, oh, oh, oh, oh! Kimberly! Kimberly! **GO CUBS!**

## THE KIMBERLY CUB SONG

Kimberly School, Kimberly School... We are proud to be a part of Kimberly School==  
Students and teachers learning and sharing,  
Not afraid of working, not afraid of caring.  
Friendship and fair play that's our way==  
Growing together day by day.

Kimberly School, Kimberly School==  
We are proud to be a part of Kimberly School.

GO CUBS!