



The Superintendent's Update

October 16, 2012

NEWS FROM KELLY

Gang Prevention Documentary Film: This documentary film, *LAGRIMAS DE MI MADRE* (*Tears of my Mother*), in which CUSD staff members play an instrumental role, played, free of charge, on Sunday, October 7, 2012, at the El Rey Theater. Thank you to [Dave McKay](#) and [Pedro Caldera](#) for their insight and assistance in the development of this informative documentary. In addition, one of CUSD's targeted case managers, [Martha Newton](#), is featured. [Richard Ramos](#), the developer of the gang prevention curriculum, Parents on a Mission (POM), was interviewed and filmed for the video last school year when he came to Chico to train the case managers in POM. Case managers are currently offering POM classes to parents at various school sites in Hmong (Chapman), English (Chapman & Bidwell), and Spanish (McManus & Parkview). POM classes will be offered at other sites in the spring. The video will soon be available with Spanish subtitles, which will be extremely helpful to CUSD case managers who are providing POM sessions to our Spanish speaking parents.

This film, produced by Ron Reed and the Butte County Public Defenders, focuses on the suffering mothers endure when a child they love strays into the path of a gang. The negative effects of gangs in Butte County, on young boys, girls and their families are vividly displayed in this documentary. The film depicts local situations using police officers, educators, probation officers & families and reveals the pain caused by gangs and pleads: STOP THE MADNESS!

A strong community that supports youth & families can be at the front line against gang violence. Butte County has many active agencies that are working to strengthen families. The following agency leaders were guest speakers at the event:

- [Steve Bordin](#), Chief Probation Officer, Butte County
- [Mike Ramsey](#), Butte County District Attorney
- [Kirk Trostle](#), Chief of Police, City of Chico
- [Bernard Vigallon](#), Retired Director of Alternative Education
- [Ron Reed](#), Butte County Juvenile Public Defender

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR VALUED EMPLOYEES

Teachers Are Heroes: Congratulations to [Annalisa Hansen](#) who was selected as the recipient for Teachers Are Heroes. Annalisa, an English Teacher at Bidwell Jr., was interviewed on KHSL 12 Wake Up. Before that, [Karen Washington](#), teacher at Fair View High School, was the Teachers Are Heroes award winner and was also interviewed on KHSL 12 Wake Up. Her segment can be viewed on the KHSL website. Congratulations to both Annalisa and Karen!

Chico Unified Management Association (CUMA) Member of the Month:



At the monthly Leadership meeting in October, John Carver, Interim Maintenance Manager, received the "Ruler of the Month" award. This award is sponsored by Jack Danielson of Horace Mann Insurance. Pictured with John is Blake Danielson, Jack's son and a graduate of Chico Unified. This award is bestowed based on feedback from other leaders in the District. Peer feedback noted that John works long and varied hours throughout the District and that he is extremely dedicated to ensuring that our sites and facilities are clean and ready for children and adults.

NEWS FROM EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Common Core State Standards: On Monday, October 15, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. a team of thirty-eight CUSD administrators and teachers attended the second meeting of a countywide workshop series about supporting the implementation of the common core state standards. On Saturday, October 7, educators from around the North State congregated for the Mt. Lassen Math Council Annual conference. Roy Tadeo, Adan Mota, and Cindy Chang presented on using math games that support the intellectual behaviors found in the Common Core. Beth Sarcona presented on student discourse that supports the Common Core. Robert Preston presented on Everyday Math practices that support the implementation of the Common Core. Michael Morris and Brian Boyer presented on Chico Unified's Common Core implementation efforts. On October 11, Cynthia Zwald, Jennie Marsh and Rachel Love attended an evening Math Teacher Toolkit workshop at Butte County Office of Education focusing on Common Core assessment and content standards. On October 12, Dan Sours, Brett Silva, Karen Washington, Dan la Bar, Deanna Holen, Damon Whittaker, John Shepherd, David McKay, Brian Boyer and Michael Morris met to discuss implementation of the Common Core at the high school level. Adopted in California in August 2010, the K-12 Common Core State Standards were developed through a state-led effort to establish consistent and clear education standards for English language arts and mathematics. The Common Core State Standards have been formally adopted by about 90% of the states. A CUSD Board of Education workshop on the Common Core was held on September 5.

Abeo: Abeo, an educational design and implementation group partnering with Chico Unified, conducted several professional development sessions this week focusing on helping students produce rigorous, high-quality work with a goal of college readiness. Thanks to teachers Ray Barber, Tom George, Marcelle Gregoire and Valerie Jensen for inviting other educators in to their classrooms to observe students working as part of our staff development efforts. Special thanks to Liz Metzger and Brian Boyer for coordinating our work with Abeo.

Data and Student Information Systems: Jennifer McCall, Bonnie McCarthy, Joe Loomis, Mike Ruffner, Jennifer Bevers, Jason Gregg, and Michael Morris met on October 11 to consider possible improvements in emergency card systems, bar-coding, student discipline reporting, and electronic teacher signature system for attendance to improve efficiency.

Leadership Team: The Leadership Team met on October 11 from 3:30-5:00 p.m. for training on budgeting and finance conducted by Assistant Superintendent Maureen Fitzgerald.

District Advisory Council (DAC): The next meeting is October 25 at the Large Conference Room from 12:15 to 3:10 p.m. The purposes of the DAC are to provide a forum for open two-way communication between the district and school sites as well as guidance and support for Common Core State Standards implementation. Please send hot topics to Mike Morris by October 23.

Illuminate Data & Assessment System: Teachers, administrators and support staff are using our new data and assessment system, called Illuminate, to collect and analyze data to inform decisions about instructional practices, placement and to organize instructional resources to support our students. Over 170 teachers are utilizing document cameras to quickly scan student answer sheets and provide students with immediate results. The Illuminate system provides web-based access to student assessment information in one place, whether from state, district, classroom or curriculum-based assessments.

California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE): The next administration of the high school exit exam will be held on **November 6 & 7, 2012** for **grade 11 and 12** students and adults who have not yet passed the exam. Please note that the November administration of the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) takes place on election day; after a thorough review, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction determined that this date was the only viable option for the November administration.

CELDT Testing: The California English Language Development Test (CELDT) test is given each year to students identified as English learners. Schools sites are conducting annual CELDT testing through October. The CELDT has three purposes: (1) to identify students who are limited English proficient; (2) to determine the level of English language proficiency of students who are limited English proficient; and (3) to assess the progress of limited English proficient students in acquiring the skills of listening, reading, speaking, and writing in English. More about the CELDT program may be found at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/el/>.

STAR Test Results: Individual student results from the spring 2012 STAR tests have been sent to parent/guardians. If you do not receive your student's STAR score report mail, please contact Louise Workman at 891-3000 x171. The dates for the STAR Writing Test in grades 4 & 7 will be March 5 and 6, 2013. The STAR multiple-choice testing window will begin on April 15, 2013. The 2012 STAR test results were released approximately August 31st and may be found at: <http://star.cde.ca.gov/>

2010–11 Accountability Progress Reporting (APR): California's integrated accountability system that reports both the state Academic Performance Index (API), and the federal Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) and Program Improvement (PI). The following reports have been released and are available at: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/ar/>

- * 2012 Growth Academic Performance Index (API) Reports
- * 2012 Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Reports
- * 2012–13 Program Improvement (PI) Reports

Congratulations to the following schools for substantial increases in API: Parkview 36, Citrus 35, Sierra View 20, Little Chico Creek 18 and Hooker Oak 15. Congratulations to the following schools who have exceeded the state API target of 800 for schools: Emma Wilson, Hooker Oak, Little Chico Creek, Marigold, Neal Dow, Parkview, Shasta, Sierra View, Chico Jr. Marsh, PV, and Inspire. Congratulations to the following schools who met all criteria for federal Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP): Little Chico Creek, Sierra View.

A new state accountability tool, the School Quality Snapshot was released this week for all public schools in California. The School Quality Snapshot displays a broad series of data that can be used to help inform parents and policy leaders about the success of each school. This broader view of accountability includes not only state assessment data, but other important types of information demonstrating school performance. The website is: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/ac/sq/>

CALPADS: To fully comply with federal accountability requirements, California has enacted a data collection and reporting system, California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS). Collection and reporting of this data is a joint effort between all CUSD schools, Business Services, Educational Services, Human Resources, Information Technology, and Nutrition Services. CALPADS data submission for Fall 1 (12-13 Enrollment Counts, 11-12 Grads and Drops and Immigrant Counts) began October 3.

Targeted Case Managers: This month targeted case managers and counselors (**Martha Newton, Frances Stallman, Mai Xiong, Ge Thao-Lor, Annel Pineda, Marisol Morales, LaVon Hernandez, Dolores Alaniz, Dolores Hernandez and Leo Cano**) are teaching gang prevention classes to parents at five schools (Parkview, McManus, Chapman, Rosedale, and Bidwell). The sessions consist of six classes which are offered in English, Spanish, and Hmong so all CUSD parents have access to the material. The curriculum called *Parents on a Mission* gives parents the opportunity to learn skills that help prevent their children from joining gangs or being swayed by other toxic influences. Parents are quick to share their personal growth from these classes where they learn about the proper use of parental authority, the proper use of discipline, how to raise good citizens, and building trust and loyalty with their children. Other sites will be offering the *Parents on a Mission* classes after the first of the year.

NEWS FROM BUSINESS SERVICES

We have officially closed the books for our 2011-12 Fiscal Year! As we re-focus on the 2012-13 year we are continuing to implement our new Escape software system at the site and department level. School sites and departments now have the ability to prepare purchase requisitions, stores requisitions, and nutrition orders for catering directly from their site electronically. They also have the ability to view their accounts and balances and run reports directly from their sites. As we barrel ahead, we will be updating budgets and continuing training on both the technical aspects of the software and internal processes. The next step in the new software is to implement work flows, with site level electronic approvals, doing away with the five-part Purchase Order forms and the need to make photocopies completely. There are even more features we plan to roll out but will do so as the year progresses.

The focus for 2012-13 is Budget Transparency. We will be working diligently to align budgets with actual spending to ensure we know our fiscal position at a glance. With near \$100 Million in expenditures, that is no small feat!

I want to thank all the Business Services staff for their patience and hard work helping to get the year off to a rolling start. New systems and process can be challenging and every one of the staff has stepped up and taken that challenge head on. Good Job!

Fiscal Services: The CUSD Fiscal Services department has a new member, Lynne Koll. Lynne has been in the position for a few weeks and has hit the road running. She has already met many of the office managers and is familiarizing herself with our district. Lynne has a strong business background from various educational settings. Most recently, she was with Sutter County of Education as a Program Analyst. Please join me in welcoming Lynne to CUSD.

Coming soon is an important time of year for employees, because October 21-27, 2012, is the period designated by Congress as “**National Save for Retirement Week.**” Now in its seventh year, National Save for Retirement Week is when employers are encouraged to inform and educate their employees on the benefits of joining their organizations’ voluntary retirement plans. As your plan administrator, TDS enthusiastically supports your efforts to improve employee awareness and retirement planning.

To help you spread the word, we’ve created a series of five informative flyers (attached at the end of this Update), one for each workday of National Save for Retirement Week. Each presents a different aspect of the many advantages of contributing to your voluntary plan or plans. They discuss such topics as the importance of starting saving as early as possible, making consistent contributions, and the benefit of pre-tax contributions. *Sincerely, Rob Rosetti, Vice President Account Services, Tax Deferred Solutions*

NEWS FROM FACILITIES, MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS/TRANSPORTATION, AND NUTRITION SERVICES

Maintenance and Operations (M&O): M&O received notice from North State Playground that the new replacement playground for Hooker Oak has been shipped from Pennsylvania. There have been many private and civic groups wanting to help since this act of vandalism occurred. Everyone has been terrific in wanting to get the playground back together for the kids. M&O has been working with **Rovane Younger**, Professor and Chairperson for the Chico State Construction Class in coordinating the installation. We have met at the site with Rovane and Professor **Jim O'Bannon**, along with two construction students to prepare for the project. After the equipment arrives, we will finalize the dates for the installation. If all goes well, we will have it in place by month's end.



Recology became our waste recovery/recycle provider beginning October 1. M&O has sent all sites the scheduled pickup days. After a couple of weeks, Recology will evaluate all the routes to see if they can better serve our district. This means some adjustments to pick up days may occur. We will keep everyone advised.

Upcoming Fire Inspections: October is **Fire Inspection Month** for Chico Unified Schools. City of Chico Fire Inspector **Rick Doane**, and M&O Supervisor **John Carver**, will begin the inspections on October 11. All schools have been sent the inspection schedule. Thank you to all sites for getting your Fire Retardant Logs to M&O. These help speed the inspection process. Remember, the inspection will be looking for piggy backed electrical cords, non-approved extension cords, too much paper on the walls (no more than 25 percent flammable paper is allowed), fire extinguisher placement, monthly fire extinguisher inspections and much more.

News from Nutrition Services: Nutrition Services has been busy. We are gearing up for the Turkey Feast that will get started on October 30 and will end on November 16. We will have a great event at each site to celebrate the month of November. **Tanya Harter** has been working with our Intern **Stacy** on some fun training for our sites. They have been focusing on eating more healthy fruits and vegetables. They are training at each of our elementary sites right now. They have also been working hard on the final steps for our menus to be certified by the state. The certification will allow us to receive an additional .06\$ per meal to help offset the new cost to the menu changes. We ran a contest at each of our kitchens during the days of August 17 to October 8. The contest was to see how many sites could increase on average more than 20 more lunches a day. We had some great results from all the sites. The following are our winners.

- Little Chico Creek - up 31 lunches
- Emma Wilson – up 21 lunches
- Sierra View - up 65 lunches
- Hooker Oak - up 21 lunches
- Marigold - up 21 lunches
- CHS - up 24 lunches
- PVHS - up 41 lunches
- BJHS - up 24 lunches

GREAT JOB!!! These sites each won a nutrition T-Shirt for each team member.

NEWS FROM HUMAN RESOURCES

The annual CELT Conference on Learning and Teaching is happening on the Chico State campus next week, October 17-19. This is the biggest teaching development event that they offer each year. It is free and open to K-12 teachers, administrators, community college, and university faculty and students.

WHO: CELT Conference Keynote Speaker, **Dr. Brenda Allen** (<http://www.differencematters.info/#author-section>) is a renowned diversity scholar and Associate Vice Chancellor for Diversity and Inclusion at the University of Colorado, Denver. She is also the author of "*Difference Matters: Communicating Social Identity*."

Dr. Allen is a compelling speaker and her work on diversity efforts in higher education has been widely recognized. This is an excellent opportunity for students, faculty and staff to enrich our classroom, campus and community work on diversity issues.

- keynote presentation on Thursday afternoon, Oct. 18, 1-2 PM in Colusa Hall 100, "*Diversity & Inclusion: Accelerating the Transformation*;" Dr. Allen will discuss implications of understanding and valuing social identity differences for how to become a more dynamic, productive, and inclusive teaching and learning community.
- a workshop for students on Thursday, Oct. 18, 3-5 PM in Colusa Hall 100, "*Finding Your Voice to Bring About Social Change* ; This highly interactive session will include exercises and discussions to encourage, empower, and equip students interested in social change. We will focus on how to think and act on behalf of solving various social problems related to discrimination and inequities in the United States.
- a workshop for teachers on Friday morning, Oct. 19, 9-11 AM in Colusa Hall 100, "*Inclusive Teaching Strategies*." This workshop will provide information and ideas to help faculty and staff to accomplish tasks related to teaching and learning in the CSU, Chico 2011-2016 Diversity Action Plan. Topics will include strategies for fostering inclusive classroom climates and for integrating diversity and multiculturalism into courses and other educational offerings.

EVENTS and REGISTRATION: Anyone can register for the keynote or workshops - you do not have to be affiliated with CSU, Chico to attend these FREE events. Registration is simply to track attendance and send follow up information. The goal of CELT is to be a teaching resource for the entire region. Simply select the following link to log onto the CELT page for more info and sign up for a free workshop: <http://rce.csuchico.edu/conferences/celt-conference>

NEWS FROM OUR COMMUNITY

The Jesse Kohen Memorial Halloween Run / CSU, Chico Students working with special needs children in public schools:



Runners and walkers of all ages are invited to lace up their sneakers and join the fun at the 3rd annual Jesse Kohen Memorial Halloween Run, Saturday, October 27, at Bidwell Park's One Mile Recreation Area. This family-friendly 5K Walk/Run benefits a yearly scholarship to support CSU, Chico students working with special needs children in the public schools. Costumes are encouraged (but not required) with prizes being given for BEST Costume in a variety of categories. The 5K, an officially timed event, will begin at 9:00 a.m. Registration on the day of the event begins at 7:45, but pre-registration is encouraged. Participants can register at Fleet Feet, 241 Main Street in downtown Chico or on-line at www.RacePlanners.com. Registration fees received on or before October 12 are \$30/Adults, \$20/Students, \$15/Children 12 & under. Registration fees after October 12 will be \$35/Adult, \$25/Students, \$20/Children 12 & under. Commemorative T-shirts are guaranteed with advanced registration by October 12. For registration received after October 12, T-shirts will be available on a first come, first serve basis.

Donorschoose.org: In conjunction with Golden Apple Insurance, CUSD now has 17 projects up for consideration by www.donorschoose.org. A project from [Liz Mosher](#), PVHS art teacher, has already been funded for \$388 dollars. Anyone that wants to donate should enter the code PUMPKINS and it will double their donation. This is an excellent way for teachers to get assistance with fall projects so please log in and take a look at the site.

Thrill of the World: Come out and join the 4th **Thrill The World** this year on Saturday, October 27 at 12:00pm at the Downtown Plaza Park. **Thrill The World** is a worldwide, simultaneous dance to Michael Jackson's *Thriller* in attempts to break world records and raise money for our local charity, [Arts For All](#). So far we have raised over \$600 for Arts For All and have at least 100 school-aged dancers participating each year. You can participate by learning the dance and dancing with us or just coming to cheer us on! We welcome dancers of all ages and abilities. We have weekly practices at One Mile Pool on Saturdays at 1pm and will hopefully have some other practice locations to announce soon. Attached you will find a flier, feel free to print it out and share with your friends/co-workers/family. You can also check out our website to see the videos from years past and watch instructional videos to learn the dance from home.

- Chico's Thrill The World site: www.thrilltheworldchico.wordpress.com
- Chico's TTW Facebook site: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Thrill-The-World-Chico/238303586212634>

Kids Living Shorter Lives?: Through the efforts of [Ann Brodsky](#), CUSD Safe and Drug Free Schools Coordinator, the District is partnering with a number of agencies in our community to provide parents, school staff, and other community "asset builders" an opportunity to learn more about the crisis our youth are experiencing, and, how we may strengthen our efforts to prevent, and intervene in the midst of this crisis. The parent symposium, "*Kids Living Shorter Lives?!*" is scheduled at the Enloe Hospital Conference Center on Saturday, October 27 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. [Dr. Alex Stalcup](#) is the key note speaker. Dr. Stalcup is an expert in the field of addiction, and understands brain chemistry as it relates to development, and the constellation of variables that influence the health of our young people. His presentations are informative, motivating and empowering. Topics addressed at the symposium will include suicide, alcohol, cyber bullying, tobacco and obesity – real threats to the health of our young people. Community speakers and resources will also be a part of this event.

NEWS FROM SCHOOL SITES

Art News:

- During the Month of October as part of Artoberfest: Art Studio 1 at PVHS has created a 27-foot long, continuous landscape for "Arts in Motion", a travelling art exhibit for the B-Line buses.
- October 7, Noon, downtown plaza: THRILL THE WORLD (a fundraiser for Arts for All). Donations accepted!

- October 18-19, 7:30pm in the Center for the Arts (CFA): PVHS Drama presents "Twelve Angry Jurors". Tickets are \$5.
- October 18-19, 7:00pm, the Blue Room Theater: Inspire presents "You Can't Take It With You". Tickets are \$15.00 general, \$12 for students and \$10 for students with an ASB card.
- October 27, 7:30pm, Harlan Adams Theater: the Chico High Jazz Ensemble will be in concert with the Chico State Jazz Express with guest artist Bobby Shew. Adult tickets are \$15.00 and student tickets are \$8.00. The Chico High Symphonic Band and Jazz Ensemble will be presenting their holiday concert.
- November 1, 11:50-12:30pm in the PV library: PVHS Art Studio "Fall Prelude" art exhibit reception. Art by every student in Art Studio 1 and 2 will be on display. The public is invited.
- November 1, 2, and 3 in Williams Theater: Chico High presents: "The Boyfriend". A fun musical full of music, singing and acting.
- November 9 & 10, 7:00pm and November 11, 2:00pm, CFA: Inspire School-wide Gala: Art Inspired by Science, \$10 General, \$8 Students, \$6 with an ASB Card
- December 4, 7:00pm, CFA: Inspire Winter Music Concert, \$7 General, \$5 with an ASB Card
- December 13, 7:00pm, CFA: CHS "Holiday Hoopla!". All tickets are \$7.00 for this event

CHS FFA: The four acres of beans were harvested and turned out over 16,000 pounds. Wow! That is over 4,000 pounds/acre. The clean out will probably be 15-20% which still gets back to well over 3,200 pounds/acre. A crop most farmers would brag about for years. So there will be plenty of beans to market in a year where early indicators are saying there is a shortage of beans and rising prices. Great job **Ronnie** and all the involved FFA students.

CHS Receives Kudos from the Community: The District Office received a call from a CSU, Chico employee complimenting Chico High School teacher **Jon Nickerson** and his crew of students for the landscaping at Chico High. She had the opportunity to observe and talk with them several times over the summer. She states that the crew is wonderful and work well together and is impressed with Mr. Nickerson's patience, kindness, and skill in providing directions to his students. She feels the landscaping is a huge improvement to the school environment and feels it looks "beautiful". KUDOs and a great big pat on the back to Mr. Nickerson. The community notices and appreciates the hard work of you and your students!

PVHS Art Studio Art in Motion Project: **Jim Peplow** of the B-Line bus line contacted PVHS Art Teacher **Reta Rickmers** regarding her Art Studio 1 project for the B-Line. The project was a 27 part continuous landscape in which Art Studio students worked with partners to make a continuous landscape. Mr. Peplow, who also donated 20 bus tickets to PVHS Art Studio Students took the art to his office. His comments are as follows: "I laid the posters in order on our conference room table and everybody here loved them. They were excited about it. Some of the pairing are really good. I especially like the trio of the starry night, circus, and airplane with balloons. Because of the nature of the concept, I decided to make 30 copies of the entire project and hang the complete mural in every bus! I was really happy with the color copies our machine made. The colors look great and unless you compare in detail side by side, it's hard to tell the copies from the original. Since we are hanging so many it will take a little longer to get them all up. We will start tomorrow and hope to have them all up by the end of the weekend. Thanks for working on this. I think the students will be excited to see them in the buses." Congratulations to the Art Studio students for such an amazing project, and again, thank you to PVHS Art Teacher **Reta Rickmers** for her ongoing work with our community. It is just amazing the amount of projects she has been able to find on which our students are able to collaborate. Excellent work!!

PVHS/Community Support: **Scotty Harrington** is a senior at Pleasant Valley High School. Those who know him, know that he is an amazing kid and he is also one of the strongest people you will ever meet. Scotty has also been battling cancer for the past four years. Cancer stinks! And it certainly isn't cheap. I don't know how many of you were able to attend the fundraiser at La Comida for **Scott Harrington's** medical expenses, but it seemed as if every staff member and their extended family were there! The line out the door all the way down past the neighboring store front was an exceptional example of why we live in Chico. Kudos to all of you as you continue to support Scott, his family, and the rest of the student body as they do what they can to support their friend. *Another great day – John Shepherd*

You Can't Take It With You: Congratulations to Inspire on their play, *You Can't Take It With You*, performed at the Blue Room. According to those in attendance, the play was exceptional and the kids were spot on, both in their lines and their acting ability. One visitor, who felt the kids acted well beyond a "high school production, commented, "This was not a high school play!" Kudos to Joyce and the students for yet another excellent production.

Congratulations to PVHS Tennis Player: Cheyenne won her doubles tennis match vs. Live Oak. In addition to playing tennis, **Cheyenne Mesa** also works in the office at PVHS as a student ambassador. Thank you to tennis coach Scott Feingold for his support of and faith in Cheyenne! Nicely done Scott and Cheyenne!



Anti-Bullying Campaign at CUSD Elementary Schools: The Elementary Support Staff has been working with elementary students to educate them about bullying. Kudo's to **Brian Holderman** who did a great job of organizing an all-school photo with kids wearing blue, holding "stand up to bullying" signs—as well as leading some cheers. KHSL and the Chico Enterprise Record have been excellent partners in reporting on the anti-bullying activities. Throughout the month of October, the Elementary Support Staff team will have team members in every class to deliver anti-bullying messages. The core message includes:

1. Defining bullying (3 components: intent to hurt or control, power differential between the bullier and the targeted; often a repeated behavior)
2. Identifying the roles in bullying: bullier/aggressor, bystander, targeted
3. Bystander power – engaging the majority in the solution
4. Positive behavior pledge
5. Identifying Chico HERO from each site or class

All of these presentations are followed by ongoing classroom presentations in which bullying is discussed and with a focus on developing a culture where bullying is reduced because friendships and respect are increased. Upcoming areas of focus include training adults, engaging parents, and interventions for those who are found to be bullying.

Hooker Oak Helps Local Animals:



Hooker Oak Rooms 9 & 10 and the families of Hooker Oak donated all of these items in the picture below and more as part of their dog unit, with cats thrown in this year! Students learned how dogs help humans, researched breeds, uses and origins, and then tied in the life skills. Students collected over 200 pounds of dry pet food, over 200 cans of wet food, as well as litter, cleaning supplies and more, all of which will be donated to Chico Cat Coalition. Thank you to Hooker Oak students and teacher **Beth Geise** for helping teach the importance of helping others.

Marigold Parent Education Night: Kudos to Marigold for their positive efforts to increase partnerships with parents! On Wednesday, September 27, Marigold held a Parent Education Night. The topic for the night was *Parent Orientation 101* and covered such items as Mission, Vision and Goals of the school, CUSD structure, "Who to Contact", the Responsibility Model, and how to handle different situations/scenarios that may arise at school or home. The teacher panel consisted of **Mike Townzen**, **Charlie Snyder**, **Lori Chergosky** and **Diane Deadmond**. Presenting the Responsibility Model and moderating the scenarios and questions for the panel was **Peggy Jennings-Severe** from Butte College. Marigold had 20 parent participants as well as free babysitting, District Bakery cookies and water. The night started at 6:30 and ended at 8:00 pm. The session was positive as the goal was helping parents to become good partners as well as advocates for their children. Marigold's next Parent Education night is entitled *Parent Math Night* and will be held on October 24. **Robert Preston** and **Beth Sarcona** will be the presenters with support from teachers and administration. The goal of this evening is to help parents feel more comfortable with math as well seeing the math in the world that surround us.

Rosedale's New Outdoor Stage:



A big THANK YOU to [Michael Schooling](#) and the [Rosedale PTA](#) and to [M&O](#) for their work on the new outdoor stage at Rosedale Elementary. The results that Rosedale has seen because of years of coordination are wonderful. As you can see, the outdoor stage is a HUGE addition to the campus. It will be put to good use during assemblies and special events. - Tim Cariss, Principal

Thank you Danny!: Bidwell Jr. High would like to thank Danny and the Bidwell PTA for working hard to make Bidwell the BEST place!



CUSD IN THE NEWS

Enterprise Record

[Chico students hope to put end to bullying in education](#)

[CUSD candidate Gary Loustale says he can bring new perspective to panel](#)

[Elementary school band makes comeback in Chico](#)

[Chico Unified School District finding ways to work with charters](#)

[Previous school bond has former Chico Unified School District board member ...](#)

News and Review

[Money talk - News - Local Stories - October 4, 2012 - Chico News ...](#)

Other

[Fine Arts Chico Unified School District With Music - YouTube](#)

[Incumbent in schools race praises technology - Chico Enterprise ...](#)

[Measure E Will Extend Tax Rate from Older, Controversial Measure](#)

NEWS FROM CHS/ROP

ACE

ARCHITECTURE, CONSTRUCTION & ENGINEERING

ACE is just beginning to *RACE!* Students in Architecture, Construction, Engineering and ROP CAD Drafting at Chico High School are a lot busier than the economy. In addition to all the class projects that are being designed by students, ROP students are hard at work on new projects and internships with local business partners.

Thomas Welding continues to be a staunch supporter of our Engineering students. ROP student, Vincent Uribe spent the entire summer doing Solid Works Engineering Design for them. He and Blake Houston are continuing their ROP experience this fall. Both students share time on site each week learning engineering and creating very advanced CAD files used in actual production. Not bad getting paid to be in class!!

Seniors Jason Snedeker, Sammy Sanders, Laura Lampe and Study Thao are working on a series of safety plans for CUSD. Jason will lead the team of students in developing safety maps for every school in Chico Unified. His team will create emergency maps and utility maps for each site to be used by administration, police and fire in emergency situations.

A team of engineering students is starting a business opportunity with Westside Research of Orland. Groups of two students each are designing Solid Works models and Rapid prototypes of parts for luggage and cargo equipment to be patented and manufactured by Tim Dexter of Westside Research. A special business license of Solid Works will be used by the ROP teams to allow them to make actual production designs. If you have a truck or a jeep, chances are you own some of Tim's equipment.

Our only PVHS ROP student this year is Kenny Allen. You may have read about Kenny in the newspapers. Kenny is a top ranked sprint car racer at the Silver Dollar Speedway. His is also a very good engineering student. Kenny is working on a custom car design in Solid Works for a car builder from Orland. Two of his cars have been featured in Hot Rod Magazine. Kenny is working on a one of a kind car that is going to be built around a Dodge Viper engine. Kenny is currently working on frame parts that will be cut to precision on the largest water jet machine in Northern California.

Most exciting is a multi-student opportunity to work with Andy Newsum of the Butte County Office of Governance. Josh Ottinger, Leif Hasle and Olivia Somhegyi are involved in a multi-million dollar design opportunity with Andy's office. They will be working with TLCD Architects of Santa Rosa doing design work for the new B-Line bus facilities. The students do a web cast meeting from the classroom with TLCD Architects each week and they are given design problems for the project. They post their work on the internet and it is reviewed by the architects in their office. Cool stuff for high school students.

By years end we hope to have multiple student websites available for all to see the exciting things that happen each semester in ACE, Chico High Architecture, Construction and Engineering. Feel free to contact instructor Mike Bruggeman at mbruggem@chicousd.org if you have an opportunity for our students or would like to come by for a visit. We are always looking for more mentors and more students.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Through Arts for All, Mini-Grants are available for CUSD **visual and performing arts projects.**

You must fill out the attached application to access these funds. Funds can be used for materials, projects or student activities. All proposals will be judged by the Arts for All Grants Committee Board. The Arts for All Board will oversee the administration of each funded project.

- **A report (either written or verbal) of your progress on each funded project is due one month after granting to the Arts for All board.**
- **A final written report summarizing what has been accomplished will be due one month following the conclusion of your project.**

WHO CAN APPLY FOR A MINI-GRANT?

Any teacher in CUSD.

FOR WHAT CAN MINI-GRANT FUNDS BE USED?

Priority will be given to applications that have a permanent, on-going value or use. The Board will also consider one-time projects that have an impact on a significant number of students.

HOW MUCH MONEY IS AVAILABLE FOR A MINI-GRANT?

Mini-Grants will be offered each semester for projects which can be completed during that semester, based upon available funds. Funding of this nature is competitive since there is a limited amount of funding available at any time. In the future, we hope to have greater funds available, but for this current round of funding please keep requests to \$200.00 or less.

HOW TO APPLY FOR A MINI-GRANT?

1. Fill out an application (see below).
2. **Submit completed application ELECTRONICALLY For Fall of 2012, submit by September 15, 2012 For Spring 2013, submit January 31st.**
3. Arts for All Grant Committee Board Members read and rank the applications and make recommendations to the full Arts for All Booster group the month following the submission deadline.
4. Applicants are notified, in writing, by the Board of the status of their application the month following the submission deadline.
5. The recipient must give a report (either written or verbal) within one month following the granting of the award to the Arts for All Board outlining your progress.
6. Funding will come from the Arts for All North Valley Community Foundation account as a check payable either to the grant recipient, to third-party vendor(s), or as reimbursement with original receipts submitted with approval by the Arts for All board to NVCF/Arts for All.

APPLICANT NAME:

NAME AND ADDRESS OF
SCHOOL SITE:

WORK PHONE:

PERSONAL PHONE:

EMAIL:

DATE:

Project Proposal

1. As briefly as possible, describe your plan or project idea.

*How many students will directly benefit?
How will your project benefit your
students' arts education and the arts?
What will you do? Where? With whom?
When? And why?*

2. Describe the specific need or issue that your project will address.

Please include a list of those who will benefit from this project.

The current situation is this:

3. What specific changes or outcomes do you intend to achieve as a result of your project?

We intend to achieve the following specific outcomes:

4. What are the major steps you will need to take to make your project happen?

Please include a timeline...

5. What resources will you need to accomplish these steps? Please submit a budget with 1–2 sentence narrative describing rationale behind your cost estimates.

People, equipment, materials, training, supplies, services, etc.

Continued on next page.

6. Approximate total cost: Funding from other sources: Grant size requested:	\$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____
7. Who else in the community has a vested interest in working with you as partners on this project?	
8. What information, tools, data, etc. will you use to decide whether your project succeeded?	
9. Is there an opportunity with your project to generate recognition and membership in Arts for All? If so, how?	
10. Any other comments or considerations to support your project?	

Please answer the questions above and email the application to the at:
Kim Kurnizki, Arts for All Grants Committee Chair, at:
kurnizki@sbcglobal.net

REMINDER:

- A report (either written or verbal) of your progress on each funded project is due one month after granting to the Arts for All board.
- Please submit digital photographs whenever possible. Digital photographs of your funded project will help Arts for All missions of advocacy and fundraising.
- A final written report summarizing what has been accomplished will be due one month following the conclusion of your project.

National Save For Retirement Week 2012

OCT 21-27

Now's the time to inform and educate... ...to help employees plan and save!

Congress has designated October 21-27 as National Save For Retirement Week, when employers are encouraged to take steps to inform their employees of the benefits of participating in their organization's voluntary retirement plans. At TDS Group we support your efforts to increase employee awareness and increase participation, so we've created a series of five informative flyers discussing different aspects and promoting the advantages of saving for retirement.



TIPS FOR RETIREMENT SAVINGS DAY ONE –

This flyer explains the overall benefits of saving for retirement, discusses approximately how much a worker should save at various stages of their career, and presents a compelling example of the power of compound interest to grow one's nest egg.

TIPS FOR RETIREMENT SAVINGS DAY TWO –

Day 2 shows how a few simple adjustments to one's spending habits can free up money that can go into a growing retirement account, and how these small savings can grow over time to a significant balance.

TIPS FOR RETIREMENT SAVINGS DAY THREE –

TDS' flyer for Day 3 explains the benefits of making contributions to a retirement savings plan on a pre-tax basis, and how every dollar added to an employee's retirement account actually costs him or her less than a dollar in take-home pay.

TIPS FOR RETIREMENT SAVINGS DAY FOUR –

On Day 4 we show and tell that by making a small increase in one's contribution each paycheck, through the power of compound interest, it can grow to an amount many times the size of a worker's actual total contributions.

TIPS FOR RETIREMENT SAVINGS DAY FIVE –

The Day 5 flyer presents two examples of workers at different stages of their career who follow different retirement savings strategies. In one, a younger worker saves a modest amount each week over 25 years, while the other demonstrates the benefit of the "catch-up" contributions to a mature worker over 50 years of age.

For more information consult your TDS Benefits Counselor today!
Call us at (866) 446-1072, or visit us online at www.tdsgroup.org

TDS
Tax Deferred Solutions

Tips For Retirement Savings – Day 1

Set Your Goal, Set Your Contribution ...

The Social Security Administration and personal financial planning experts suggest that you'll probably need 80% - 90% of your current salary to retire comfortably. To make sure you don't face a "retirement gap," you'll need your own supplemental retirement plan to make up the difference.

To set your savings goal, first determine what 80% of your current salary is. Then subtract your anticipated state pension benefits. The remainder is the additional amount you'll need each year, either in cash spent from savings or interest earned from your nest egg, to enjoy a comfortable retirement.

A good rule of thumb is if you're in your 20s, save 7% of your income; 10% in your 30s, 15% if you're in your 40s, and 20% in your 50s.

... Then Let Time and Your Money Do All The Work!

In any retirement plan, the most important thing is to start your retirement savings plan right now! Through the power of compound interest, your investment will grow much larger than the sum of all your contributions. For example, Fred contributes \$200 each monthly paycheck to his retirement account. Over 30 years, he'll contribute \$72,000. But thanks to compounding interest, after 30 years his nest egg will total approximately \$300,000 – a increase of \$228,000 over his actual out-of-pocket cost.

In addition, with pre-tax contributions Fred's tax burden went down, which partially offset the amount he is deducting each pay period. By earning a savings on his taxes by making a pre-tax contribution, each dollar Fred contributes actually costs him less than a dollar – a "discount" that makes saving even more attractive.

For illustrative purposes only. It assumes an 8% rate of return and reinvestment of earnings with no withdrawals. The illustration does not reflect any charges, expenses or fees that may be associated with your Plan.



Tips For Retirement Savings – Day 2

Can You Afford To Save? Try These Budgeting Tips!

By cutting back just a little on some common monthly expenses, you can easily afford a modest contribution that will grow significantly over time. Just consider how much one person can save by cutting back on a few common items:



Expense	Give Up How Often	Monthly Savings	Value if Invested for 25 Years
Dinner	Once a week	\$100	\$94,745
Lunch out	Twice a week	\$60	\$56,847
Coffee and bagel	Twice a week	\$40	\$37,898
Vending machine soda	Once a day	\$12	\$11,369
Movie ticket	Once a month	\$10	\$9,474

Monthly costs are based on general average prices.

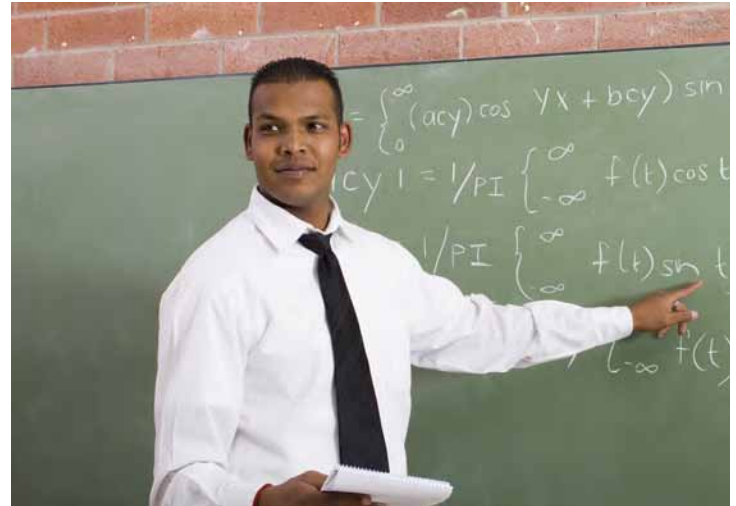
This illustration is hypothetical and assumes an investment in a tax-deferred retirement account in which you earn an average annual rate of return of 8%, compounded monthly. This hypothetical example is not based on (or predicting the performance of) any specific investment plan or savings strategy.

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Tips For Retirement Savings – Day 3

The Power of Before-Tax Saving

Funding your retirement savings account with before-tax dollars provides significant tax advantages. For example if Richard contributes to a plan with before-tax dollars, it can actually increase his spendable income compared to putting aside money after taxes.



This chart shows how:

	Savings Before Tax	Savings After Tax
Gross Pay	\$2,000/mo.	\$2,000/mo.
Minus Before-Tax Contributions	-\$100	\$0
Taxable Pay	\$1,900	\$2,000
Less: Estimated Tax Withholding	-\$361*	-\$380*
Less: Contributions to Other Savings Plan (After Tax)	\$0	-\$100
Spendable Pay	\$1,539	\$1,520
Before-Tax Advantage	\$19	None

*This hypothetical illustration assumes 15% federal income tax withholding and 4% state and local income tax withholding. It doesn't account for Social Security, Medicare or other taxes.

Tips For Retirement Savings – Day 4

Contributing a Little More Can Really Add Up!

Building your nest egg takes time, but the amount you contribute can significantly increase its size over time. As the chart below illustrates, if Stephanie contributes \$25 every two weeks, after 30 years she will have savings of more than \$81,000. A \$50 contribution each bi-weekly paycheck will result in over \$162,500 in savings, while \$75 every month will become \$243,000 when she retires. That difference can have a major impact on her quality of life after retirement.



For illustrative purposes only. This hypothetical example does not represent the performance of any investment options. It assumes an 8% rate of return and reinvestment of earnings with no withdrawals. The illustration does not reflect any charges, expenses or fees that may be associated with your Plan. The tax-deferred accumulations shown above would be reduced if these fees had been deducted.

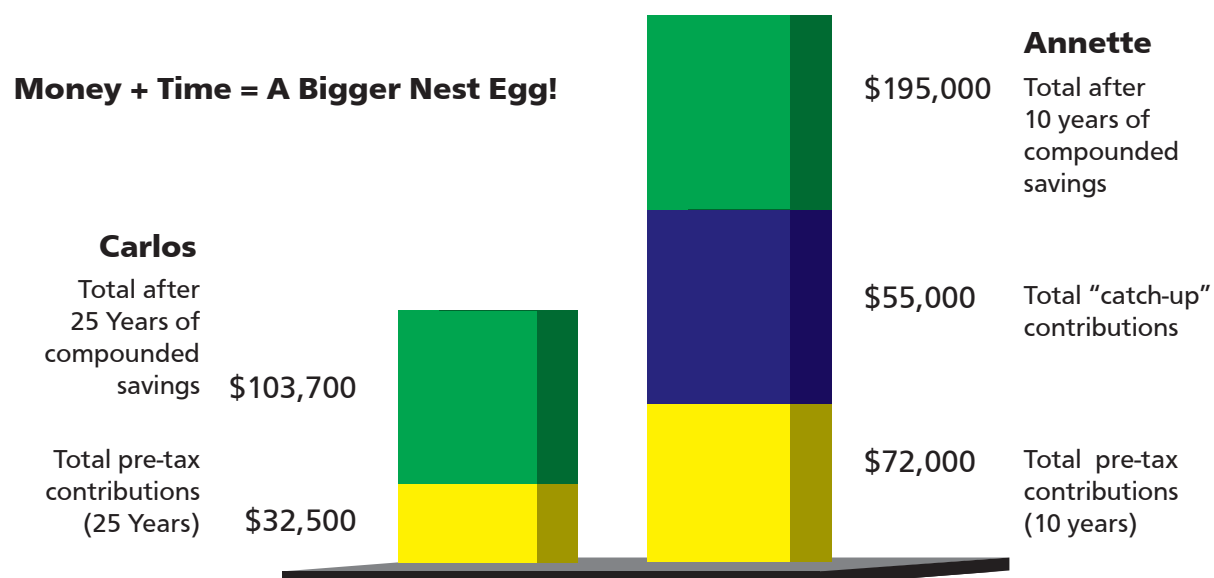
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Tips For Retirement Savings – Day 5

Start Your Retirement Savings Plan Today!

At any stage of your career, it's never too early or too late to start your supplemental retirement savings plan. For younger workers, a modest contribution combined with compounding interest and the power of time can build a considerable nest egg you can count on for your future. For workers over 50, the government allows you to make additional contributions to "catch up" and build your savings faster.

Example One: Carlos, 35 years of age; Planned retirement age: 60; salary: \$45,000/year. Carlos decides to make a \$50 contribution to his retirement savings plan with before-tax dollars every two weeks. That's only 2.8% of his gross pay, totaling \$1,300 per year. Because pre-tax contributions reduce his taxable income, his contribution of \$50 each check only impacts his family's budget by approximately \$40 each pay period. Over 25 years with the same contribution amount, Carlos will have contributed \$32,500, but because of compound interest would grow to approximately \$103,700.



Example Two: Annette, 50 years old; Planned retirement age: 60; salary: \$65,000/year. Annette just turned 50, so she is eligible to make "catch-up" contributions in addition to her monthly contributions. Since she and her husband both work, their children have grown and their expenses are less than before, Annette is able to make substantial contributions. She opts to contribute \$600 per month, or \$7,200 per year, plus the maximum "catch-up" contribution of \$5,500 per year. In ten years she'll set aside \$127,000 from her pay which, with compound interest, total approximately \$195,000.

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the third annual

Jesse Kohen Memorial Halloween Run

**October 27th, 2012
9:00 am**



**Register at Fleet Feet
241 Main Street in downtown Chico or
at RacePlanner.com
fee: \$30,
\$20 student, and
\$15 for under 12 years of age**

WHAT: 5K Walk/Run to raise money for a scholarship to support CSU, Chico students working with special needs students in the public schools.

- Prizes given for BEST Costumes in a variety of categories
- T-Shirt included with advanced registration by Oct. 12th
- Race day registration available
- Packet Pickup Friday Oct. 26th from 12-6 pm, at
Fleet Feet - 241 Main Street (downtown Chico)

**Contacts: Bob Kohen or Kay Kohen 530.520.7647
rkohen@sbcglobal.net**

Donations to: North Valley Community Foundation/Jesse Kohen

NVCF.org

---CALLING ALL DANCERS---

THRILL THE WORLD

LEARN THE DANCE:
All ages and abilities welcome.

SATURDAYS 1-2PM
Weekly Practices at One Mile Park
(south of pool)

OCTOBER 27, 2012
12pm Downtown City Plaza

An annual worldwide simultaneous
dance of Michael Jackson's **Thriller**

**Fundraiser for
CUSD Arts For All
Booster Club**

www.thrilltheworldchico.wordpress.com

Sponsored by FRIENDS OF THE ARTS

