

The Superintendent's Update



October , 2014

INFORMATION REGARDING NEGOTIATIONS

Currently the District has offered funding that amounts to a 2% salary increase to both CUTA and CSEA 110. Those funds can be used as each group determines. In addition, the District has proposed increasing its payment for medical insurance premiums from the \$950 paid in 2013/14 to \$985 for 2014/15.

Under the new Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), some of the state money that was previously known as “categorical” or “restricted” dollars is now “unrestricted”. While that could have provided increased flexibility in how local districts use dollars, the State at the same time required all districts to develop a Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) to demonstrate how it will spend monies on targeted students, specifically low socio-economic, English learners, and foster youth.

Further adding to the issue is the fact that K-12 districts, most definitely including Chico Unified School District, have not yet recovered from the huge cuts to public education that were incurred with the recession that began in 2007-08. In fact, the unrestricted LCFF funding that CUSD will receive from the State for the current 2014-2015 school year will be slightly **less than we received in the 2007-08** school year. As all costs continue to rise, it is not a surprise that the District's budget for 2014-15 shows that we are spending more money than we bring in.

To help address needs across the District with limited dollars, the Board has taken the approach of allocating approximately one-third of new money toward each of the following priorities:

- Employee compensation
- Programs for students, with an emphasis on the targeted student populations
- Deficit reduction

In regards to CUTA, the District and CUTA bargaining teams last met on May 29. The District requested a postponement of the session scheduled for August 11. CUTA declined the opportunity to reschedule and responded that CUTA would file with the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) for a declaration of impasse. The District has requested that further negotiations sessions be scheduled.

In regards to CSEA, Chapter 110, the negotiating teams met on September 23 and reached agreement on a memorandum of understanding that spells out the process and forms to be used to have many CSEA 110 members paid on an annualized basis and moves us away from time cards.

We look forward to the opportunity for additional negotiations sessions with our employee groups in the near future. It is our goal to find positive resolutions that address the three priorities of our Board and community—employee compensation, student programs, and a balanced budget.



NEWS FROM EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

District Wide Meeting: The second of four District Wide staff development meetings is scheduled for October 14. Elementary teachers will be discussing Reading strategies for struggling readers and will be grouped by grade levels. Secondary Teachers and Counselors around the district will sign up utilizing the staff development Google calendar in the staff room on the CUSD website. The secondary menu includes some department specific sessions, sessions related to Smarter Balanced Assessment, and some general professional development titles like *Nurtured Heart* and *Google Applications for Education*. The majority of these sessions are being facilitated by Chico Unified School District staff.

Secondary Math Update: Secondary Math teachers met during the District Wide meetings on September 16, 2014, to discuss different acceleration models that could be implemented next year. Acceleration models had entry points that ranged from 7th to 11th grade. The overall consensus was to accelerate sooner rather than later, but some are hesitant to accelerate in 7th grade because of past experience with improper placement. Due to the implementation of Common Core Curriculum the current 8th graders have not yet been given the opportunity to accelerate. Our first priority is to create a model for this group of students to begin acceleration in 2015-16 that will give them the opportunity to take AP Calculus by their senior year. The next priority is to create a model that would accelerate junior high students allowing them to also reach AP Calculus by their senior year. A final decision on acceleration for this year's 8th grade class will be made by the November District Wide meeting. We will continue to look at the junior high options and have a decision by early spring. For questions or input, contact John Bohannon via email at jbohanno@chicousd.org or by phone at 891-3000, ext. 165.

Elementary Lync Meeting: Writing assessment protocol and scoring was the topic of discussion on all elementary sites via a Lync webinar during last Tuesday's staff meeting. Collaborative discussions were held in grade level bands (K/1/2, 3/4 and 5/6) regarding grade level writing content and convention expectations. The narrative writing rubric both in student friendly language and CCSS aligned language was examined and discussed by teacher groups. Additionally, grade level examples of narrative writing were provided for each grade level band to use as they individually scored and then discussed the rubric level of the papers. This information was provided as the Tri 1 Benchmark Writing Assessment window opens up on Monday, October 13 and closes on Friday, October 24.

YouthBuild: Chico Unified is very fortunate to have been awarded a YouthBuild grant. The program is a comprehensive youth and community development program which engages out-of-school, low-income youth ages 16 – 24 and provides an alternative education and employment pathway that enables participants to obtain a high school diploma or GED, advance toward post-secondary education or career-oriented employment. Twelve students who were in the first cohort recently graduated. One student went directly to full-time employment. The other eleven are pursuing post-secondary education. **Blaze Jordan**, one of the graduates, has been accepted to the Art Institute in Seattle, Washington. He has received approximately \$34,000 in scholarship funds to support him as he furthers his education.

Early Childhood Family Education and Support Program: Did you know that CUSD has an early childhood family education and support program? CUSD Parents as Teachers (PAT) services begin prenatally and continue until a child enters Kindergarten. There are currently three PAT parent educators that make personal visits (either in the home or at our center at Citrus Elementary School). Our parent educators provide information on child development, support for challenges (such as discipline, sleep, eating, etc.) and encouragement! We can serve up to 75 children and can provide services in English, Spanish and Hmong. The only requirement we have is that the family must live in Chico and have a child aged 0-5.

The PAT curriculum is research-based, developmentally appropriate, and helps to build the five protective factors (parental resilience, social connections, knowledge of parenting and child development, concrete supports in times of need, and social and emotional competence of children). We provide developmental screenings (ASQ and ASQ-SE) and vision and hearing screenings yearly.

PAT is a fun program for both the children and the parents. At the personal visits, the parent educator guides the parent and child in a fun activity that is developmentally appropriate. Families are encouraged to set goals and the parent educators help them to determine what steps they must take in order to reach their goals. Families are also referred to outside resources as the need arises. Each PAT child gets a free book at the end of each visit.

CUSD PAT is a fun, non-threatening way for parents to receive assistance and support in strengthening their parenting skills, as well as improving their child's development. If you know a family that would be interested in participating in PAT, please email Terry Quinto at tquinto@chicousd.org and she will email a referral form to you.

Special Education: **Aaron Sauberan** presented this summer at the National Convention - Special Education Services For Early Childhood Professional Development on June 8, 2014, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. His presentation was entitled: *Teacher Initiated - One School's Changing Approach to Preschool Special Education Paraprofessional Staff Development*. Aaron has established himself as a leader in preschool education. He is actively evaluating the current needs in our districts special education programs and aligning these to teacher professional development workshops. Aaron continues to implement best practices in many of our professional development workshops this year. Two such workshops are noted below from Loma Vista Preschool.



Kathy Nissan and **Becky Samorano** –
Speech and Language Specialist at Loma Vista School



Christine Garcia presenting at workshop at Loma Vista School

Recognition Celebration: **Jeaner Kassel**, Principal, Special Education Programs, **Sharon Bolden-Schleh**, School Psychologist, and **Rick Bower**, Adapted Physical Education Teacher will be honored at the 19th Annual Butte County / Coordination Council's Recognition Celebration on October 16 at 5:00 p.m. at the ARC Pavilion. All three are being recognized for their exemplary services on the lives of people who have a developmental disability. All staff are welcome to join in the celebration. Congratulations Jeaner, Sharon, and Rick!

Information Services: Following is a logistics document for the 43 carts and 1,530 additional Chromebooks devices. This brings our total to 45 carts and 1,650 Chromebooks specifically for Instructional Technology. The schools have group numbers indicating all the carts and schools they will be delivering with the group number. The IT staff ([Mike Tilton](#)) is working with the company to "drop off" the carts to each school site. He will follow up with proper use of the carts and how the devices will be stored. Also, many of our sites still have limited networking and wireless connectivity. We will continue to work on the school sites with the QuickStart projects. Sierra View, Hooker Oak and Little Chico Creek will have a new network (including wireless) Infrastructure. We are beginning the next three sites as well as addressing the remaining sites to improve network and wireless connectivity.

School	Delivery Group	# Carts	Device per Cart	Total Devices
Marigold	1	2	35	70
Neal Dow	1	2	35	70
Sierra View	1	3	35	105
Pleasant Valley HS	1	3	40	120
McManus (John)	2	2	35	70
Shasta	2	2	35	70
AFC/Fair View HS/CAL	2	2	40	80
Bidwell JHS	2	2	40	80
Little Chico Creek	3	2	35	70
Parkview	3	2	35	70
Chico HS	3	2	40	80
Marsh JHS	3	3	40	120
Citrus	4	2	35	70
Emma Wilson	4	3	35	105
Hooker Oak	4	2	35	70
Rosedale	4	2	35	70
Chapman	5	2	35	70
Chico JHS	5	3	40	120
Chico JHS (Extra)	5	1	0	0
District Office	5	1	20	20

Update on Chromebook Carts: The delivery of the chromebook carts to each of the sites has been completed. There is another step by which the devices need to be configured to work with WiFi networks. As has been stated in the past, depending on the wireless equipment and coverage, the device experience may vary greatly. We have upgraded wireless at the following sites: Pleasant Valley High, Chico High, Sierra View, Hooker Oak, and Little Chico Creek. We will have more information about wireless upgrades and schedules soon for the remaining sites. We are confident in the wireless capabilities at the sites with upgraded wireless. We will start chromebook configurations at these sites first and then move to the remaining sites.

The remaining sites will be configured for legacy wireless but depending on the signal strength and the number of devices connecting in a given area (this includes any laptops, iPads, smartphones, and other devices connected by staff and/or students) the experience may be less than ideal. When there are many devices connecting to the legacy wireless, the experience will be affected. The remaining sites will also start next week. The IT department will be establishing a temporary wireless (SSID) network (i.e., CUSD and CUSD Guest) that will be enabled for a short time to be used to connect/configure the chromebooks on the legacy CUSD wireless network. We will work with each site to complete the chromebook wireless configuration and then each site will need to test the devices for usability.

As a reminder, the chromebooks will remain as "district owned" and each site will be responsible for any broken, damaged and/or lost or stolen devices. We will provide instructions on best practices for device management. The IT department will inventory the carts twice a year to ensure they remain in good working order. I hope this helps to bring everyone up to speed on the deployment and status.

Thank-you all for your support and patience as we begin this journey into the technology world!

 NEWS FROM BUSINESS SERVICES

2013-14 Financial Report: The 2013-14 year-end financial report is complete. The Unaudited Actuals (UA) financial statements are the year-end reports representing the financial activity of the Chico Unified School District (CUSD) for the 2013-14 fiscal year ending June 30, 2014. This report is not a budget with estimates and projections. It presents actual revenues received and expenses incurred during the year.

For 2013-14, CUSD reports a negative change in fund balance in unrestricted programs of (\$4,468,500). The Estimated Actual (EA) Budget projected a negative change in fund balance of (\$4,380,702). The difference between the projection and the actual was \$87,798. This represents a very accurate EA budget projection.

The negative change in fund balance is the third consecutive year of reported deficits in unrestricted programs.

- 2011-12 (\$2,802,108)
- 2012-13 (\$3,217,884)
- 2013-14 (\$4,468,499) Note: One-time salary settlement with all bargaining units approx. \$2 million

Below is a five year comparison of unrestricted programs UA reports:

	2009-10 U.A.	2010-11 U.A.	2011-12 U.A.	2012-13 U.A.	2013-14 U.A.
Total Revenue	\$72,221,368	\$73,598,120	\$71,102,755	\$72,310,032	\$78,099,272
Expenses					
Certificated Salaries	(\$36,088,439)	(\$30,671,295)	(\$35,740,778)	(\$36,890,997)	(\$38,508,247)
Classified Salaries	(\$7,159,334)	(\$7,197,928)	(\$7,476,086)	(\$7,377,710)	(\$10,052,139)
Benefits	(\$15,989,589)	(\$15,592,618)	(\$15,957,450)	(\$16,281,536)	(\$18,720,625)
Supplies	(\$1,281,282)	(\$1,060,213)	(\$536,552)	(\$904,614)	(\$1,568,265)
Services	(\$4,456,107)	(\$4,573,251)	(\$4,642,194)	(\$4,918,158)	(\$5,240,005)
Capital Outlay	(\$429,980)	(\$117,022)	(\$192,596)	(\$44,029)	(\$27,689)
Other Outgo	\$765,026	\$207,154	\$496,328	\$1,537,121	\$1,635,440
Contributions & Transfers	(\$7,940,895)	(\$8,204,941)	(\$9,855,535)	(\$10,647,993)	(\$10,086,241)
Total Expense	(\$72,580,600)	(\$67,210,114)	(\$73,904,863)	(\$75,527,916)	(\$82,567,771)
Inc/(Dec) in Fund Balance	(\$359,232)	\$6,388,006	(\$2,802,108)	(\$3,217,884)	(\$4,468,499)

↑
State Fiscal Stabilization
Funds (SFSF) received

CUSD, like nearly all school districts in California, received one-time federal funds (i.e. American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and Ed Jobs Program) and one-time state funds (i.e. State Fiscal Stabilization Funds (SFSF)) in prior years that increased the district's fund balance. CUSD has been utilizing these one-time dollars to avoid cutting programs during the economic recession. As we come out of the recession, CUSD continues to spend more money than we receive in revenue, even with additional money from LCFF. CUSD will need to reduce expenditures to balance our budget.

Chico High School Lincoln Center Wins Top Design Awards: The Western Council of Construction Consumers has awarded Chico Unified with awards for design and sustainability excellence for Lincoln Hall. School Board President, **Dr. Kathleen Kaiser**, accepted the award on behalf of the district at an awards banquet held on October 2, 2014. SKW Architects was praised for their innovative building design and Modern Building Company (**James Seegert**) was honored for facilitating the construction of our beautiful new building. **Michael Weissenborn**, former Director of Facilities and Construction and **Julie Kistle** the current Director joined the celebration.



Proposition 39 Expenditure Plan: On Friday, October 3, 2014, the district was notified that the California Energy Commission approved our 2013/14 Energy Expenditure Plan for an amount of \$2,026,504.20! The expenditure plan covers a period of five (5) years starting with 2015. The Facilities Department has begun planning for the first round of projects that will include Exterior/Interior Lighting Improvements at Citrus, Emma Wilson, Hooker Oak, Sierra View, Chico Jr., and Bidwell Jr., Solar at Neal Dow, and partial heating and air conditioning replacements at Bidwell Jr., Chico Jr. and Citrus.

Water Emergency: There are currently nine Cohasset Community households without water because their wells have gone dry. CUSD Maintenance and Operations, in cooperation with the Cohasset Community Association, Butte County Public Health Department, and the Butte County Emergency Services are working together to supply those Cohasset residents with water for their households. The Cohasset Community Association has provided personnel to distribute the water. **Mike Witczek**, CUSD Sr. Plumber, has trained the volunteers on the proper techniques and procedures to distribute water to the households in need. The Association will distribute the water until the local wells can produce their own water. Special thanks go to:

- Cohasset Community Association Members
- **Elaine McSpadden**, Butte County Health Department
- **John Gulserian**, Butte County Emergency Services
- **Fruit Growers Laboratory, Inc.** for their help with water analysis
- **Mike Witczek**, CUSD
- **Joel Rothenberger**, CUSD

Green Apple Day: On Saturday, September 27, a group of volunteers from the Chico State Construction Academy helped with CUSD campus improvements at Marigold Elementary. This is the second year we have teamed up for Green Apple Day. There were 23 volunteer students that worked from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon under the guidance of CUSD Sr. Painter **Scott Beem**. They painted the exterior of six portable classrooms completely and the fronts of three other portables. The CSUC team leader was **Anthony Faye**. The students involved, who were outstanding to work with were: **Anthony Faye, Joshua Osorio, Amders King, Katie Krehbiel, Oswaldo Trinidad, Andy Erlandsen, Mike Green, Luis Uriostegui, Chanel Harrich, Junior Ramirez, Sara Luther, James Hensley, Kang Her, Eric Gonzalez, Anthony Butler, Angel Torres, Kurt Huddleston, Jimmy Boyers, Connor Foad, Matt James, Matt Hall, Brittany Vermillion and Madison Hossfeld**. M&O and the CSUC Construction Academy are looking forward to future joint projects.



Green Apple Day Volunteers

Transportation: The Transportation Department took part in the Annual North Valley Fire, Safety & Health Expo at the Chico Walmart store on Wednesday, October 1. The Expo helps teach children and adults about house evacuations in case of fire. On display were Firefighting equipment, Ambulances, Police cars and the Enloe FlightCare Helicopter. The CUSD Transportation Department provided a school bus and Supervisor **Bob Ontiveros** and School Bus Driver Trainer **Sean Sullivan** did a presentation on School Bus evacuation and safety. A big thank you to the both of them for a great job!



Nutrition Services had a very smooth start to the new school year. The team is working very hard at our 2014-15 goals for the year. Our "Make a Positive Change" campaign has been a hit at all our sites. The idea behind this goal was to carry the positive energy from the beginning of school to the last day. We are working very hard to eliminate small obstacles that can bring the moral down as the year progresses. The team has been encouraged to communicate obstacles at the beginning of the year as they occur. It has been a challenge, but has been well worth it so far. I am excited to see the end result.

The team is also gearing up for the third year of our Turkey Feast at each school site. Parents should be encouraged to join their child for a fun day of food with friends. It is a great chance for parents to meet their children's school day friends and other parents. We look forward to seeing everyone at our Turkey Feasts.



HUMAN RESOURCES

Loss of long time CUSD Teacher, Patricia Scully: Patricia Scully, gifted, spirited, CUSD teacher for 28 years, passed away on Wednesday, October 8. Spunky and enthusiastic, she began her teaching career at Bidwell Jr. High and taught English at Pleasant Valley High School for the past 27 years, with a stint teaching in Venezuela, to boot.

Every teacher strives to affect the lives of students in a meaningful way. Perhaps nothing is more powerful than words from her former students to best convey Ms. Scully's influence. What follows are quotes from former students that have begun to come in.

- *"Without question, Scully had a substantial and relentlessly positive influence on my education, career and life. I loved her classroom and the energy she brought to PV."*
- *"She introduced us to literature from across the oceans, and throughout time."*
- *"Never a dull day – that's for sure!"*
- *"It's the love of literature that Ms. Scully first had an instrumental hand in fostering that has kept my interest and my desire over the years."*
- *"Scully had a huge impact on me as an individual and I always considered her a true friend."*
- *"Her class was NEVER boring."*
- *"She cared fiercely about her students and we could feel that."*
- *"She was one of the best teachers I ever had the pleasure of learning from, but she was also one of the most dynamic women I ever met."*
- *"We were rewarded with being pushed to the furthest reaches of our writing skills"*
- *"She made sure our college entrance essays were top notch; it was the reason my path to UCLA happened."*
- *"She taught me much and I will be forever grateful."*
- *"Teachers mean something. I won't say Ms. Scully meant something, because Ms. Scully means something. To me, many of my friends, and no doubt hundreds of others who came after us."*
- *"A much loved teacher, and an amazing woman."*

Patty Scully taught English but she accomplished something much more valuable as she taught about responsibility and second chances and humor and caring: she taught her students about living life.

Remembrances may be shared via Newton-Bracewell's website: <http://www.nbcfh.com/>

A Patricia L. Scully Scholarship fund will be established.
Contributions may be sent in care of:
Newton-Bracewell 680 Camellia Way Chico, CA 95926

Classified Human Resources: Earlier this fall, Mr. **Andrew Duch**, Captain - Jail and Court Security Commander for Butte County Sheriff's Office, provided an excellent presentation on "De-Escalation" skills to District Office and School Site Administrators. On October 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and on October 29 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Williams Theater at Chico High School we will have Mr. Duch on-site to teach our Campus Supervisors and School Aides "De-escalation" techniques. Based upon availability, and the success of this endeavor, we intend to offer this training to other school site staff.

We are working with our Workers' Compensation administrator, Keenan & Associates, to perform site inspections related specifically to slips and falls. Tim Hall is a Senior Loss Control Consultant who works in Keenan's Loss Control/Risk Management department. The intention of these inspections is to provide the district with another view of potential slip and fall hazards and to proactively address these concerns. Mr. Hall will visit every site and will provide a report to the District.

We continue to fill open positions and expect further openings in the near future. Employees will continue to receive Job Site Transfer/Seniority notices from the District mailed to the home for classifications in which the employee currently holds a position. However, if you are interested in a position in a classification to which you are not currently assigned, you will need to make sure that you consistently check our web page at <http://www.chicousd.org/Departments/Human-Resources/Classified-Non-Teaching/index.html> for job opportunities. This link will take you to the web page that shows our current "Internal Notices" and will link you to open and promotional recruitments. The two easiest locations to find information about current recruitments are on the link above or through Edjoin.org. Be sure to check the websites on a weekly basis to ensure that you do not miss an opportunity.

The following are job listings which can be found on Chico Unified School District website: <http://www.chicousd.org/Departments/Human-Resources/Classified-Non-Teaching/index.html>

Substitute Licensed Vocational Nurse

Posted: 10/7/2014 - Deadline: Until Filled

Classified Staff \$17.66/Hour

Director - Maintenance Operations Transportation

Posted: 9/29/2014 - Deadline: 10/20/2014 11:45 PM PST

Classified Staff \$70,729-\$109,723/Annually

Internal Openings

<http://www.chicousd.org/Departments/Human-Resources/Classified-Non-Teaching/index.html>

Internal openings are only open to current CUSD permanent classified employees. If you are a current CUSD permanent classified employee and are interested in any internal openings, please submit a Letter of Interest form.

If you do not currently hold a permanent classified position with CUSD you are not eligible to submit a letter of interest.



NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOLS

Chico High Lincoln Center has been awarded with the designation of "Outstanding Design" and will be featured in the 2014 American School & University Architectural Portfolio!!! Lincoln Center is the only California project appearing in the high school category. This year, the panel of Architectural Portfolio judges selected 127 projects to be featured in the November issue of American School & University (this was a combination of several categories). The complete list of 2014 projects selected for publication is posted on SchoolDesigns.com site at <http://schooldesigns.com /Architectural-Portfolio.aspx>. Congratulations to All!

Third Annual Music Benefit: The 3rd Annual Music Benefit was a wonderful display of a community coming together and celebrating music. Students from Pleasant Valley High, Chico High, Inspire, Chico Junior, Marigold Elementary, as well as several schools in the surrounding areas, dazzled the audience with a wide range of music. In addition, the PVHS faculty band (**Barber, Brooks, Heimlich, and Vought**) made the audience leave feeling rather "happy". Special

thanks to **Jim White**, **Phil Morgan**, **Cindy Engberg**, **Patti Flint**, and the **PV IB students** for helping make the show run so smoothly. Please give a BIG congratulations to **Gabby Pero** and **Madeleine Sahagian** (PVHS IB seniors and the event leaders) who have worked tirelessly since last spring on this production. **Noah Gosselin** (PVHS IB senior) also did an amazing job as emcee. Overall, the event raised over \$1600 which will be donated to Arts for All to support music programs throughout the district. Very exciting!!!

This event was created by **Nellie Ponarul**, a PVHS alumni, three years ago. Nellie had a deep love and appreciation for the music education she received. Nellie, who is now attending UCLA, is thrilled to know that this event continues to support music in the schools and to bring our community together. Respectfully, ~ **Amy Besnard**, PVHS IB CAS Coordinator

Music Benefit Performers

- Josh Jacobs
- Zack Sanders
- Ian McNanie
- Sarah Krulder
- Diego Bustamante
- Kerry-Anne Loughman
- Taylor Brooks
- Isa Kraatz
- Justin Thomson
- Jonathan Thomson
- Webster Moore
- Jessie Jiang
- Amy Quinto
- PVHS Teacher Band
- Breshears Children
- Chico Children's Ukulele Group
- PVHS Choir
- Chico High A Cappella Choir
- PVHS Band
- MTAC Youth Orchestra
- CA Regional Theatre Ensemble for Legally Blonde Jr.



The Music Benefit Leaders



The PVHS Teacher Band

CHS Agriculture & the Henshaw Farm: The students did a great job growing cranberry beans this year - they yielded 25,000 pounds field weight. This is a very high yield and even more impressive when the growing conditions are taken into consideration. The seeds were germinating in the hottest week of the summer, coming through the soil in 105 degree weather with the soil surface itself at 120 degrees. Thank you to the Friends of Ag for their ongoing support of the farm. Their farming advice during trying conditions ensured positive results at the farm. Thank you also to the Ag instructors for their support of our students.

CHS Welding Students Win Awards: CHS Welding Instructor **Ronnie Cockrell** took four Welding 2 students and eight Advanced Welding students to a two-day welding event at Shasta College. During the first day, the students had the opportunity to practice MIG and TIG welding as well as classroom sessions on both welding processes. The following day, the students practiced the Oxy-Ace cutting process. The students were presented with a heavily weighted written test about the three different welding processes they had learned. The final activity was a performance exam where students had to perform one of the three processes: MIG, TIG, or Oxy-Ace. The Shasta College judges and instructors graded both the written and performance tests and averaged the scores in each category. Chico High students placed in the top three (3) in every category and of the nine (9) awards given, Chico High took five (5) awards. On the written test, Chico High had the best overall academic score out of the 9 schools participating. Congratulations to our CHS Ag students:

- **Oxy-ace Welding Awards:**
 - ☆ 1st Place - **Brandon Grosberg** won a new auto-darkening welding helmet and a hat (Senior/ Advanced Welding);

- ☆ 2nd Place - **Jose Sanchez** won a new auto-darkening welding helmet (Sophomore/ Welding 2)
- **TIG Welding:**
 - ☆ 3rd Place - **Mikayla On** won a Miller jacket and bag (Junior/ Welding 2)
- **MIG Welding:**
 - ☆ 2nd Place - **McKenzie Shaw** won a new auto-darkening helmet (Sophomore/ Welding 2)
 - ☆ 3rd Place - **Garrett Stewart** won a Miller jacket and bag (Senior/Advanced Welding)

PVHS Alma Mater and Fight Song: Since it is homecoming, Ryan Heimlich, Band instructor at PVHS is sharing information regarding the PVHS Alma Mater and Fight Song. At the end of this update is a PDF file of the sheet music for BOTH the Alma Mater and the Fight Song. The links to recordings of both songs can be found below. They are on YouTube and were done with a phone, but will help people learn the tunes.

Alma Mater: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HUUPlg4lVJk>

Fight Song: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nMKA_1Z4pFc

PVHS Music Updates:

- *Band:* PVHS Band performed with the Cal Berkeley Band at Cal Band Day, including a performance during the halftime show! Following is a link to the video of the marching band with the CAL Band. PVHS can even be seen in the up close video. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GaRPyCC1yYA>
- *Choir:* Four students will be participating in an Honor Choir sponsored by Chico State on Saturday. **Taylor Brooks**, **Kira Veach**, **Isabella Silva**, and **Greg Dettoma** have been learning six pieces and will go and rehearse with 100 students from all over Northern California. The concert will be held at 5:00pm at Bidwell Presbyterian Church.



SPOTLIGHT ON EMPLOYEES

Sacramento Valley Scholastic Chess League (SVSCL): **Steven Oberlander** is not only a teacher at Neal Dow Elementary School in Chico, but he is also the Director of the Sacramento Valley Scholastic Chess League (SVSCL)—and he is encouraging all schools in the district to join in! Fielding teams from as far south as Yuba City and as far north as Corning, this competitive scholastic league has been in existence for over 15 years. A chess team is a positive alternative for those students who may not excel in traditional sports or extra-curricular activities. In order to get a chess team started, simply find one or more students interested in playing the game and one adult willing to supervise and assist the students. Three players are needed to field a school chess team, but if you do not have that many interested players, an individual student may still join the league and participate in our tournaments as an unattached player. Participants in the league can be in any grade K-12. Competitive tournaments occur from 4pm to 5:30p.m. on a Wednesday once a month and are held at different schools. In order to join the SVSCL, each student must complete a league membership form. There is also a \$35 membership fee. This fee provides membership in the league as well as the United States Chess Federation (USCF). This joint SVSCL/USCF membership ensures that each student will have a globally accepted chess ranking based on his/her tournament wins and losses. If you discover an interest at your school, or have any questions regarding this invitation, Steve can be reached at 514-5149 or at soberlan@chicousd.org. I look forward to hearing from you! ~ *Steven Oberländer*



NEWS FROM OUR COMMUNITY

The **Chico Community Scholarship Association** will hold its annual fundraising luncheon 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 15, at Outback Steakhouse, 1190 East 20th St. Tickets are \$30 and available by calling 891-9519. Donations can be made at: www.chicoscholarships.org The Chico Community Scholarship Association assists deserving CUSD graduates pursue higher education. Last spring, 169 scholarships totaling nearly \$154,000 were awarded. Thank you Chico Community Scholarship Association!

Former CUSD Student Makes National News: **Megan O'Connell**, a CUSD graduate and daughter of CUSD teacher **Jeanne O'Connell** is part of a national news piece on the Common Core. Megan, a PVHS 2003 graduate, was featured in BTSA videos when she was a first year teacher in Rancho Cucamonga. That video is now part of a Katie Couric reporting piece on Common Core (through Yahoo News). About 2.28 minutes into Katie Couric's explanation of the Common Core changes is a brief portion of a clip of Megan teaching her sixth graders (she has blonde hair and is dressed in a black/white striped skirt). Megan is now a sixth grade teacher in Santa Rosa. While we may not all agree with all of the viewpoints expressed in the news piece, we all can agree we are proud of Megan and the work she is doing as an educator!

http://news.yahoo.com/katie-couric-explains-common-core-in-schools-220038408.html;_ylt=A0SO80pGySRUAuUAAOLBG0d;_ylu=X3oDMTE0OGpkOXFuBHNIYwNzcgRwb3MDMQRjB2xvA2dxMQR2dGikA1RBVVmWmJlffMQ--



CUSD IN THE NEWS

[Candidates forum tonight in Chico](#)

[Candidates forums set in Chico, Oroville](#)

[Cohasset residents have access to water](#)

[Chico High group to sing at Carnegie Hall](#)

[Chico school panel to review safety plans](#)

[Chico schools prepare for safety challenges](#)

[Safety education comes with fire truck, helicopter to Walmart parking lot](#)

[Chico school panel discusses tech plan, kids teaching teachers](#)

[Chico Hmong New Year celebration cancelled, community leaders feel mistreated by police ...](#)

[Chico Scholarship Association fundraiser luncheon is Wednesday](#)

[News of Our Past: Mining company looks for gold on ag land](#)

PLEASANT VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL ALMA MATER

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY
CHARLES THOMPSON



1: WHERE THE VAL - LEY MEETS THE MOUN - TAINS, RIS - ING PROUD - LY IN - TO
2: LIKE THE MIGHT - Y MEN OF LEG - END, FEAR - ING NO - THING DAR - ING



VIEW, WAVES A VI - KING'S FLY - ING_ COL - ORS, PLEA - SANT VAL - LEY'S WHITE AND BLUE. WE WILL CHEER OUR GLOR - IOUS
ALL, MO - DERN VI - KING'S STRONG AND FAITH - FUL, STAND COUR - AGE - OUS STRAIGHT AND TALL.



BAN - NER, AS ITS CO - LORS FILL THE SKY. AND WE'LL PRAISE OUR AL - MA



MAT - ER, PLEA - SANT VAL - LEY SEN - IOR HIGH. VAL - LEY SEN - IOR HIGH.

PLEASANT VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL FIGHT SONG

A



COME ON AND FIGHT YOU VI - KINGS WIN THE GAME, WE'RE HERE TO SEE OUR TEAM TAKE ALL THE FAME,



GO ON TO GLO - RY FOR OUR SEN - IOR HIGH, AND WE WILL RAISE OUR BAN - NER TO THE SKY TO -

B



NIGHT SO CLAP AND CHEER THEM ON SO GLO - RI OUS, OUR VI - KING TEAM WILL BE VIC - TO - RI - OUS,



WE'LL SHOUT FOR P V SEN - IOR HIGH TO WIN, FIGHT ON TO VIC - TO - RY!



No matter the time of year, a big old bucket, bag, or pillow case full of all-you-can-eat sugar is never a treat -- for kids or adults. An American kid can easily accumulate **5,000 - 10,000 calories worth of candy** in that bag and eat the equivalent of **3 entire cups of sugar!** Of course, if it were only one night a year, we could look the other way, but, on average, **kids eat 100 pounds of sugar annually** (that's more than a lot of kids weigh!) and **get 10-15% of their calories just from soda and fruit juice**, not to mention cereal, pastries, and all the many other sources of added sugar all around us. So for those who feel they **MUST** collect candy, **pick out a couple of favorite pieces and then toss or donate the rest.**

the big number

4

October 31 is just one day of 365, or .27% of the entire year, but 4% of all candy consumption occurs on that day.

**EAT BETTER. PLAY HARDER.
LIVE HEALTHIER. LEARN EASIER.**

WELLNESS IS A WAY OF LIFE!™

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

WELLNESS IS A WAY OF LIFE!™

HELPING YOUR WHOLE FAMILY FEEL WELL AND DO WELL!

"TRICK"

EAT BETTER

Try lots of different fruits, veggies, and whole grains for a healthy diet. You're bound to find a few you really like!

BANANA

Some sweet treats have nutritional value, too. Peel a few bananas and put them on popsicle sticks. Freeze and drizzle with a little dark chocolate. Yum!



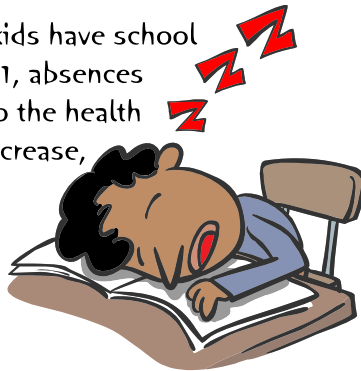
LIVE HEALTHIER

Kids are at their cutest this time of year, but they can also be at their most vulnerable: they're more than twice as likely to be hit by a car on October 31 than on any other day of the year. Adults can help in two ways. First, supervise your own kids closely and make sure they are carrying flashlights and wearing reflective tape or stickers. Second, watch out for other kids -- drive with extreme caution on the big day, especially from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.



LEARN EASIER

Schools report that when kids have school on the day after October 31, absences and tardiness soar, visits to the health room for stomach aches increase, and concentration and productivity suffer as well. Yet another connection between eating well and doing well in school!



PLAY HARDER

Need another reason to go easy on the sweet stuff? A 100-pound kid would have to play 14.5 hours of full court basketball to burn off a 7,000 calorie candy binge. We're in favor of playing harder, but that's a little ridiculous!



First things First



BREAKFAST @SCHOOL



Featuring Healthy Fruits & Grains!

School Meals We serve education every day™

Over the last three school years, we've been putting in place a number of changes to make our meals even more nutritious for our customers. For instance, beginning this year, all the grains we serve will be "whole-grain rich," which means they will contain more than 50% whole grains.



DON'T 4GET!

Take at least ONE FRUIT or VEGGIE and at least THREE items total so your meal counts as a complete lunch!



School Meals We serve education every day™