

# The Superintendent's Update



December 19, 2014



## NEWS FROM KELLY



**CUSD Board:** Congratulations to our newly elected CUSD Board members. From left to right, are **Eileen Robinson** (elected to her second term); **Gary Loustale** (first term on the Board); and **Dr. Kathleen Kaiser** (elected to her third term). The new Board members were sworn in at the Wednesday, December 17, 2014, CUSD School Board meeting by Butte County Office of Education Superintendent, **Tim Taylor**.



## SUPERINTENDENT AWARDS FOR DECEMBER 2014:



**Certificated Staff Award:** **Dennis Schultz**, Chico High School Special Education. Award presented by Chico High Principal **Jim Hanlon** and CUSD Director for Special Education, **Eric Snedeker**.

**Classified Staff Award:** **Tami Medearis**, Rosedale Elementary School Office Manager. Award presented by Rosedale Principal, **Tim Cariss**.





**CUSD Community Volunteer Recognition:** **Barbara Schrader** is a community member who has generously donated stuffed animals and hand-knitted scarfs and hats to our youngest students at McManus. She was recognized for her work by McManus Principal **Kristina Keene** and Director for Elementary Education, **Joanne Parsley**. To view examples of her heartwarming work, please see the PowerPoint presentation attached at the end of this Update.

**Randy Salado Retirement:** It is with bittersweet emotions that we say goodbye to Director of Maintenance and Operations, **Randy Salado**. Randy, who began his career in CUSD as a grounds person, became Director of M&O and Transportation in September 2011. His combination of technical knowledge, strong work ethic, and customer service skills will be greatly missed. We wish Randy health and happiness in his retirement!



**Leadership Award:** **Jessica Kamph**, Assistant Principal at Chico Junior High School, was awarded the Golden Apple Leadership Award at the December Leadership Team meeting. She was introduced by Marsh Junior High School Assistant Principal **Erica Sheridan** and received the award from **Jack Danielson**. Congratulations Jessica—well deserved!



## NEWS FROM EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

**Voluntary Meeting for CUSD Employees:** In 2013 California implemented a new formula for funding K-12 public education known as the Local Control Funding Formula or LCFF. The LCFF allocates funding that must be used to provide improved or increased services to English Learner students, students from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds and students living in foster homes (“targeted students”). The LCFF requires school districts to craft a Local Control Accountability Plan or LCAP which outlines a three year plan for using the allocated funds to serve the “targeted students”. With input from teachers, parents, students, staff and interested community members, the District developed its first LCAP plan during the 2013-14 school year.

The Voluntary Meeting for CUSD Employees regarding the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) is scheduled as follows:

**Date:** Wednesday, January 14, 2015  
**Time:** 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Chico High School, Lincoln Hall

Please contact **Bonnie McCarthy** at [bmccarthy@chicousd.org](mailto:bmccarthy@chicousd.org) or at 891-3000, ext. 110 if you plan to attend this meeting.

**Language STAR Update:** This year, the CUSD ELD (English Language Development) elementary instructional program, *Language Star*, has moved into the Junior High Schools continuing the district's vertical articulation. The results with elementary students have been phenomenal and as coaches, we are excited about continuing that support for Jr. High teachers. The ELD coaches have also created an overview of Language Star Methods and Principles that support the Common Core English Language Arts (ELA)/ELD standards for elementary school students. During the fall, many teachers attended a three session series for either K-2 or 3-6 and received the Common Core ELA/ELD Language Star Methods/Principles alignment. Beginning January 26, 2015, we will be offering a four session Professional Development series where teachers will receive the Common Core ELA/ELD Language Star Methods alignment along with other strategies to Maximize Student Growth.

**The Hour of Code:** The Hour of Code is a one-hour introduction to computer science, designed to demystify code and show that anybody can learn the basics. The grassroots campaign goal was for tens of millions of students to try an Hour of Code during December 8-14, 2014, in celebration of [Computer Science Education Week](#). Numerous CUSD schools participated with one or more classes working through the code tutorials. Chapman, Citrus, Little Chico Creek, Marigold, Neal Dow, Parkview, Rosedale, Shasta, and Sierra View elementary schools participated among others. Information can be found at: **code.org** and click "Try the Hour of Code."

**Information Technology Promotions:** Congratulations to a couple of our wonderful tech guys for their promotions: **Justin Cooper** is our new Information Systems Analyst and **Phil Brock** promoted to Network Analyst. We are currently in the process of filling 2 open Computer Tech positions.

**Chromebooks:** We have 1,650 Chromebooks in 45 carts in the district. Information about Google Apps and Chromebooks has been presented at ETAC (Elementary Technology Advisory Council) and STAC (Secondary Technology Advisory Council) as well as the district-wide training last month. We are looking to provide more in the near future.

**Status of Measure E Projects:** Electronics have been ordered for the next round of elementary schools which includes: Emma Wilson (beginning next week and lasting through January); Neal Dow (beginning late January); and Shasta (beginning in February). We are upgrading fiber and copper cabling and installing new electronics and wireless at these sites. This takes about a month per site to complete. We have completed Hooker Oak, Sierra View and Little Chico Creek elementary schools. Our fiber optic backbone at Bidwell is complete as well as the cabling for wireless. We will be installing the electronics at Bidwell next week. Installation of networking equipment (including wireless) at Chapman, Citrus, Parkview, McManus and all three high schools is complete.

**Measure E – District Office Data Center Update – Installation of a New Data Rack:** Our new racking system installation is complete. Servers and all fiber optics will be moved to the new cabinets in the District Office's data center on Saturday, December 12.

**CUE Rockstar Camp at PVHS in June** (space is running out)

<a href="#">CUE Rock Star Teacher Camp Chico</a>		
Date: June 15-17, 2015	27	199.00
Times: 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM		
Location: Pleasant Valley High School, Chico, CA		


Registration for CUE Rockstar Camp can be found at:  
<https://cueweb.cue.org/cueweb/PDW/PDWWebStore.aspx?pagecode=rockstar>

**Email SPAM Filtering Changes:** The IT Department installed a new **SPAM filter** on Saturday, December 13. This system replaces our previously BCOE provided SPAM solution. CUSD is implementing our own system to better manage and address the recent increase of unsolicited and "spear-phishing" emails (specially crafted emails to trick users to click and share private information). This type of threat has become one of the biggest security risks in any organization. Having control of email flow here at the District Office and being able to analyze threats as they come in will help to better secure our network. As with implementing any new technology such as this, there may be some bumps along the way. We are currently testing all the different systems that rely on email to be sure they are functioning normally.

One of the **NEW FEATURES** of our SPAM system is your ability to manage (BLOCK, DELIVER, WHITELIST/DELIVER and DELETE) messages you want to bypass the filter. Beginning December 18, you will receive an email if any of your new email messages were filtered and quarantined. This message will look like the one below and the sender will be [barracuda@chicousd.org](mailto:barracuda@chicousd.org).

From: Barracuda Spam Firewall  
To: Jason Gregg  
Subject: Spam Quarantine Summary - (1)  
Date: Monday, December 15, 2014 3:15:08 PM  
Attachments: ATT00002.png

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 Spam Quarantine Summary

Total inbound quarantined emails for jgregg@chicousd.org: 1 message

The emails listed below are ones that have been placed in your quarantine digest since the last quarantine summary was sent.

Messages older than 30 days will be removed

Email Quarantined Since Last Notification (No previous notification): 1 message

From	Subject	Actions
test	test123	<a href="#">Deliver</a> <a href="#">Whitelist</a> <a href="#">Delete</a> <a href="#">View</a>

[DELETE ALL DISPLAYED EMAILS](#)

Click on the [Deliver](#) link to have that message delivered to your primary inbox.  
Click on the [Whitelist](#) link to have that message delivered to your primary inbox and that sender whitelisted.  
Click on the [Delete](#) link to remove that message from your quarantine.  
Click on the [View](#) link to display that message in a new Message Details browser window.

[Manage your allowed / blocked list](#) [Set quarantine notification intervals](#)

[View your entire Quarantine Inbox or manage your preferences.](#)

For any email messages you receive you can do the following for each:

- Click on the **Deliver** link to have that message delivered to your primary inbox.
- Click on the **Whitelist** link to have that message delivered to your primary inbox and that sender whitelisted.
- Click on the **Delete** link to remove that message from your quarantine.
- Click on the **View** link to display that message in a new Message Details browser window.

**Early Assessment Program (EAP):** The EAP is designed to provide students, their families, and high schools with early signals about students' readiness for college-level English and mathematics. The EAP identifies a student's need for additional preparation in these areas while still enrolled in high school. The goal of the EAP program is to have California high school graduates enter the CSU fully prepared to begin college-level study. Students deemed to be College-Content Ready based on their EAP results are exempt from taking California State University and participating community college placement tests in English and mathematics and move directly into college-level classes upon enrollment.

This year, all grade 11 students taking the state Smarter Balanced Assessments in English and Math will be able to use their overall scores as a college content readiness indicator.

- Students scoring overall Level 1 or 2 in English and/or Math will be considered Not-Yet content ready at CSU.
- Students scoring overall Level 3 in English and/or Math will be considered conditionally content ready at CSU.
- Students scoring overall Level 4 in English and/or Math will be considered content ready at CSU.

An additional pathway to demonstrate college content readiness is available to students. Beginning in spring 2015, California State Universities (CSU) will also use SAT/ACT results to indicate a conditional college content-readiness status in English and mathematics. **CSU recommends students take ACT/SAT tests by the end of the junior year.** Below are the registration and administration dates for the ACT and SAT spring 2015.

**ACT** <http://www.actstudent.org/regist/dates.html>

Test Date	Registration Deadline*
February 7, 2015	January 9, 2015
April 18, 2015	March 13, 2015
June 13, 2015	May 8, 2015

**SAT** <http://sat.collegeboard.org/register/>

Test Date	Registration Deadline*
Jan 24	Dec 29
Mar 14	Feb 13
May 2	Apr 6
June 6	May 8

**Smarter Balanced Digital Library:** The Smarter Balanced Digital Library became operational on October 1, 2014. The Digital Library contains over 2,500 resources for SBAC consortium teachers, kindergarten through grade twelve (K–12). All CUSD teachers and administrators have been sent logins to access the Digital Library.

**Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments:** The Smarter Balanced will be releasing interim assessments intended to allow teachers to check student progress throughout the year, giving them actionable information to inform instruction and help students meet the challenge of college-and-career-readiness standards. The interim comprehensive assessments (ICAs) are expected to be available mid-January, 2015, with the interim assessment blocks (IABs) following shortly thereafter.

**2014–15 California Assessment of Student Performance & Progress (CAASPP) Testing Windows:** For Smarter Balanced English–language arts/literacy and mathematics assessments in grades three through eight, CUSD sites will set a testing window between April 15 and June 4, 2015. For Smarter Balanced English–language arts/literacy and mathematics assessments in grade eleven, CUSD sites will set a testing window between April 15 and June 4, 2015. For science California Standards Test, California Modified Assessment, and California Alternate Performance Assessment in grades five, eight, and ten, the CUSD testing window is April 9 to May 13, 2015.

**Smarter Balanced Practice & Training Tests:** Smarter Balanced Practice and Training Tests are available for everyone to try. The [Practice Tests](#) provide students with grade-specific testing experiences that are similar in structure and format to the Summative Assessments. The



[Training Tests](#) provide students with the opportunity to quickly become familiar with the software and interface features. The Training Tests are organized by grade-bands (e.g., 3–5). Due to scheduled maintenance, the CAASPP Smarter Balanced Practice and Training Tests are not available from Monday, December 15 through Sunday, December 21, 2014. Practice and Training Tests will be available once again on Monday, December 22.

**California Alternate Performance Assessment (CAPA):** The CAPA is the alternate assessment for students who have a significant cognitive disability. For 2014–15, the CAPA English-language arts (ELA) and mathematics has been eliminated and will be replaced by an alternate assessment field test. Students are required to participate in the CAPA science assessment in grades five, eight, and ten, until there is a successor assessment aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Students are tested individually and accommodations are provided as listed in the student's Individualized Educational Program (IEP).

**California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE):** The next administration of the CAHSEE will be February 3 (English) & February 4 (Math), 2015. All grade 10 students are required to take the CAHSEE unless taking the alternate test for students with significant cognitive disabilities. There will be no changes to the CAHSEE content and question formats for the 2014–15 school year.

**Physical Fitness Testing (PFT):** The CUSD 2015 PFT testing window (grades 5, 7 & 9) will open on February 2, 2015. The summary results from last year are available for [schools](#), [districts](#), [counties](#), and the [state](#).

**California High School Proficiency Examination (CHSPE):** Registration for the March 21, 2015 administration of the CHSPE is now open. The deadline to register is 5 p.m. on February 20, 2015. More information about the CHSPE can be found at the [CHSPE Web site](#).

**National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP):** Little Chico Creek will be one of 1,100 California public schools participating in the **National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)** in 2015. Grade 4 students only will participate in this national assessment of reading, math and science on February 18. Parents will be notified of the details about this assessment via a letter from the school. For additional information about NAEP, please see go to the [National Center for Education Statistics Web page](#).

**Civil Rights Data Collection:** Beginning in January, Civil Rights Data will be collected and compiled from each site and the district as required by the US Department of Education. The district collects required information such as enrollment, demographics, school expenditures, discipline, advanced placement, math & science courses, teacher experience and prekindergarten.

**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 (2014-15 Enrollment Counts, 2013-14 Grads and Drops, English Learner counts and Immigrant Counts) was certified this week. Thanks to [Jen McCall](#), [Jennifer Bevers](#) and the many others who assisted in this effort.



## NEWS FROM BUSINESS SERVICES

**Winter Finally Arrives:** Winter has taken over and finally we are getting some much needed rain. With that comes all the leaves and debris from the trees. We do all we can to keep drains and roofs clean, but the reality is, it is an impossible task. We currently only have two groundsman to work all the Elementary and Junior High School sites. They are doing all they can to keep things going. There are also lots of roof leaks, which we respond to as quick as we can. Add HVAC heater issues, and you have a typical day in the life of M&O. We truly appreciate everyone's understanding and patience this time of year. We are working hard to make sure we maintain an adequate comfort level for working and learning.

**Randy Salado's Final Update:** This is the final update I will write as Director of Maintenance, Operations and Transportation. I will be retiring at the end of the day on December 30. **John Carver** will be officially assuming the duties of Director beginning January 5 through the remainder of the school year. John is a very talented person and I know he will serve the district well. I wish him all the best and know I leave the district in good hands. I would also like to thank M&O Supervisors **Dusty Copper** and **Bob Ontiveros** for being great individuals to work with. I am proud of what we have accomplished and the team we have assembled at M&O. I could not have done it without the help of John, Dusty and Bob. Also part of our great team are **Darci Bruggman** and **Mary Wrynski**. I could not have functioned without their help, knowledge and humor. Then there is the facilities crew: **Julie Kistle**, **Kayci Tiner**, **Maria Campos**, and **Lalanya (Nancy) Rothenberger**. All I can say is they are awesome and CUSD is lucky to have all of them. To all the workers at MOT, Nutrition Services, Custodial Services and Maintenance Workers, thanks for all you do every day for our students. To all the great people at the District Office, thanks for all you do for M&O and our district. And last but not least, Principals, Teachers and Staff members, it has been my honor to be a part of what you do to provide students the best education possible. *Thanks ~ Randy Salado*

*The Maintenance Operations and Transportation staff would like to wish everyone  
A Happy Holiday Season and a Happy New Year!!*

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**Student Works in PVHS' Cafeteria:** Nutrition Services worked with Special Education Teachers, and PVHS Cafeteria Staff to open its doors and help students gain valuable work experience. Select PVHS students have been working in Valhalla assisting the kitchen crew in serving lunches to fellow students. Through the Workability program, these students are being paid for their work. Once a student reaches 16 years of age, a transition plan is developed. This plan provides opportunities to gain vocational experiences to assist them in future employment after they graduate from high school. The cafeteria jobs provide this experience in a safe, but demanding learning environment. When the students arrive for lunch, the lines become long. These new employees to the cafeteria see the importance in speed and quality of service. Besides earning money and gaining vocational experiences, these jobs have also helped the students grow in other ways. Attendance, effort, improved social skills, and a sense of belonging to the Pleasant Valley High School campus are positive effects of this employment opportunity. I would like to thank **Galen Anderson** for allowing us to tap into this wonderful resource, but most of all for allowing us to work with his wonderful students, we appreciate all they provide.



## NEWS FROM HUMAN RESOURCES

**Negotiations with CUTA:** The District and CUTA bargaining teams last met on October 31. The District provided CUTA with a counter proposal on Article 8 (wages) and CUTA provided the District with a counter proposal on Article 9 (health and welfare benefits). While CUSD requested to present the 2013-14 unaudited actuals to help clarify the budget parameters faced by the District, CUTA declined to view the budget presentation.

The most recent proposal from the District included:

- 2% ongoing salary increase retroactive to July 1, 2014.
- Increasing the District's contribution to health insurance premiums from \$950/month to \$985/month. This represents an ongoing benefit that approximates .6% equivalent in salary.
- \$93,810 in one time monies to be distributed how CUTA determines. The one time offer represents approximately a .2% of a salary increase.
- One (1) additional work day for the 2014/15 school year. This represents approximately a .5% increase in salary for that year.

The teams met Friday, December 19 with a mediator.

**Negotiations with CSEA, Chapter 110:** The District and CSEA, Chapter 110 negotiating teams last met on October 14. We are working to schedule times to meet in an attempt to develop a tentative agreement.

**Negotiations with CUMA:** The District recently met with CUMA leadership to discuss employee compensation. The proposal made to CUMA was the same as that made to CUTA with the exception of the additional work day.

**Classified Human Resources:** Classified HR is excited to offer additional opportunities for staff to attend the popular de-escalation training with **Mr. Andrew Duch, Captain** - Jail and Court Security Commander for Butte County Sheriff's Office. Mr. Duch's next presentations will be held on January 12, 2015, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and from 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. in the Plans Room at the Corporation Yard. This training will be focused on our transportation and maintenance & operations staff. Another training is scheduled for February 9, 2015, at the Performing Arts Center at Pleasant Valley High School. The time will be 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and the target audience is to be determined. Our intention is to film the training at the PAC so that a video-based presentation is available in the event the Mr. Duch is not available for future trainings.

Our Workers' Compensation administrator, Keenan & Associates, continue 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.

In addition, Classified HR is filling open positions and expects to have additional openings in the near future. Announcements for recruitments for Classified Human Resource positions will continue to be posted over the upcoming holiday period. So, if you are interested in additional hours or adding a new position, please check our website for employment opportunities.



As in the past, employees will 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:

**Job Opportunities:**

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

[Senior Custodian](#)

Posted: 12/17/2014 - Deadline: 1/9/2015 11:45 PM PST

\$13.84-\$16.82/Hr plus longevity steps  
(Placement is at the first step for new employees.)

[Transportation Special Education Aide](#)

Posted: 12/17/2014 - Deadline: 1/9/2015 11:45 PM PST

\$11.96-\$14.53/Hr plus longevity steps.  
(Placement is at the first step for new employees.)

[Campus Supervisor](#)

Posted: 12/8/2014 - Deadline: 12/22/2014 11:45 PM PST

Salary Range: \$11.96-\$14.53/hr plus longevity steps. (Placement is at the first step for new employees)

[Library Media Assistant](#)

Posted: 12/4/2014 - Deadline: 12/18/2014 11:45 PM PST

Salary Range: \$12.86-\$15.63/hr plus longevity steps. (Placement is at the first step for new employees.)

[Delivery Worker](#)

Posted: 12/3/2014 - Deadline: 12/17/2014 11:45 PM PST

\$12.86-\$15.63/Hr plus longevity steps.  
(Placement is at the first step for new employees.)

[Substitute Licensed Vocational Nurse](#)

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

\$17.66/Hr

**Internal Openings**

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

| <b><u>TRANSFER OPPORTUNITIES</u></b>                      | <b><u>SITE</u></b>       | <b><u>CLOSING DATE</u></b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| <a href="#">Custodian</a>                                 | PVHS                     | Dec 19, 2014               |
| <a href="#">Delivery Worker</a>                           | Warehouse/Nutrition Svcs | Dec 19, 2014               |
| <a href="#">Grounds Worker</a>                            | M & O                    | Dec 19, 2014               |
| <a href="#">Transportation Special Ed Aide</a>            | Transportation           | Dec 19, 2014               |
| <a href="#">Instructional Assistant-Special Education</a> | Various                  | Dec 19, 2014               |
| <a href="#">Instructional Paraprofessional-Classroom</a>  | Emma Wilson              | Dec 19, 2014               |
| <a href="#">Instructional Paraprofessional-Healthcare</a> | Citrus                   | Dec 19, 2014               |

*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 to the Classified Human Resources office by the Closing Date. 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

**PVHS ROP House of Blue Media Reels:** Thank you to **Michael Peck**, Pleasant Valley High School/ROP Instructor of Film/Video/Photo/Audio, for sharing these excellent examples of student work. The following links lead to their House of BLUE website and some examples of student works. The Media Reels listed are from the first semester of the 20414-15 school year. The media reel should showcase the student's absolute best work including camera work, editing, audio, and still shots. Each ROP House of BLUE student has made their own media reel and they have also made their own portfolio webpages that show off every video they made during the school year.

- <http://www.pvhouseofblue.com/#!gallery/c8te>
- <http://www.pvhouseofblue.com/>

**CHS ROP Architecture:** ROP architecture students will be modeling the new expansion for the Pleasant Valley Baptist Church, North of Chico. This is a multi-million dollar project. In addition, the students have met with Inspire staff to begin designing a model school site for them. And, students are also finishing Real-estate models of a large portion of downtown Chico for the Satava Family. They want to relocate airport business to the downtown area. The students are working with Reece Satava in New York each week.

The ROP Architecture students at Chico High will be scheduling a visit to the downtown Chico area after break to continue measuring existing facilities. They have already completed measurements of The Banshee, Aca Taco, and the Chinese restaurant. Next they will go upstairs to detail several structures that will be considered for remodeling. No plans exist for any of these old relics in the downtown area. The Satava family is very supportive of the students and have trusted them this awesome opportunity. Their son **Reece**, a Chico High & Cal Poly Architecture graduate has received his Masters in Architectural Real Estate. He is coordinating this project from his office in New York. **Hannah Brownell** is a senior in our Butte College Connection Program and she is responsible for communication with Reece. She relays his requests to the other six members of the ROP team. Together they will send Reece consistent models and plans that he needs to promote the real estate for his family's investment. -- *Mike Bruggeman, Chico High School Architecture*

**BringBackBags:** **Lisa Mendonca**, Account Manager, notified **Reta Rickmers** that they picked one of her student's artwork for their bag design. Lisa stated it was very hard to pick one, as so many of Rita's students had wonderful art, and they appreciated each and every one of the entries. The artwork they chose was from **Jordan Fowler**. Lisa thanked Rita for her support in promoting this local project. The bags will be offered at many Chico grocery stores. Jordan's artwork is pictured at the end of this Update.

**YouthBuild (YB) News:** **Jack Rodgers**, Construction Supervisor, wanted us to know that while their kids were at US Bank opening accounts, a man walked up to the ATM and fell over and had a major seizure. The YB kids jumped into action with their newly acquired skills from CPR/First Aid training. They had the man stabilized and called 911. They did this on their own. Jack was very proud of them and said they did great!!!

**Hooker Oak's production of Oliver** ran for two weekends. The students worked really hard and it showed. Following are some pictures.



**Little Chico Creek News:** LCC had a class that participated in "The Hour of Code" on December 8 as part of Computer Science Education Week. The students used critical thinking and problem solving skills to complete fun coding activities. When asked to reflect on what she learned from the experience one student said, "Movies always portray coding as a really complicated thing with millions of lines of numbers. From this I learned that there are actually simple commands that control what happens on the screen." ~ **Stephanie Cunniff**, Sixth Grade Teacher, Little Chico Creek Elementary School.



**Elementary Music Concert:** **Mr. Kim Gimbal** reported in after another fine concert last night at Hooker Oak school. Over 60 young musicians performed at the Beginning Band Winter Concert, featuring students of Hooker Oak, Rosedale, Chapman, and Citrus Elementary Schools. They had a standing-room-only crowd on hand and a good time was had by all! Kim stated that he has never had so many students on stage! They managed to find room for everyone and suffice to say there were lots of smiles as well as great music. Kim states the Elementary Music program is growing and students and appreciate the quality music programs. Kim thanks everyone for their support as we continue to build the elementary music program within Chico Unified!





## CUSD IN THE NEWS

[Retired \*\*Chico\*\* educator's birdhouse project supports young adults](#)

[\*\*Chico schools\*\* receive a nearly \\$100K USDA grant](#)

[Letter: Fair View students benefit from Soroptimists' help](#)

[Northstate storm strikes \*\*Chico\*\*, no severe damage](#)

[\*\*Chico school\*\* board to consider solar power, Forest Ranch Charter \*\*School\*\*](#)

[\*\*Chico\*\* teachers' vote to allow future strike vote](#)

[Teachers union votes for vote](#)

[Letter: Site for \*\*Chico\*\* Junior building chosen carefully](#)

[David Little: New crop of columnists picked](#)



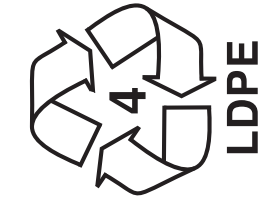
Thank you for saying YES to keeping it LOCAL.



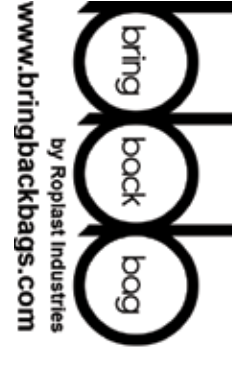
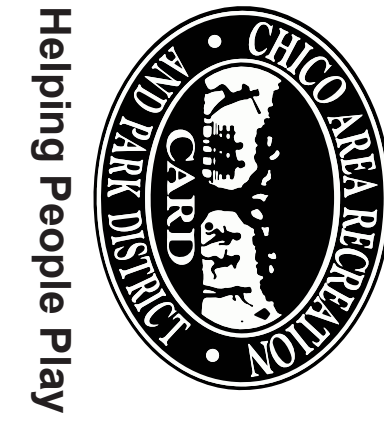
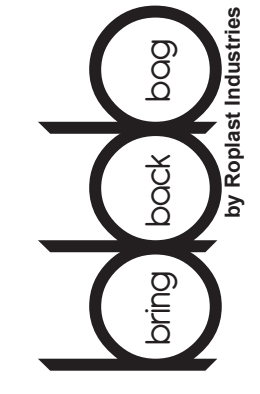
LOCAL art, LOCAL stores and LOCAL

manufacturing all contributed to making this a

These reusable Bring Back Bags® are made LOCALLY in Oroville by Roplast Industries Inc. They are ordinance compliant, Ecologo & Walk Test certified, printed with water based inks, and free of lead, cadmium, or heavy metals in toxic amounts.



Wash with a little dish soap, and water, rinse, then hang upside down to dry. After you have worn this bag out, return it to a participating store for recycling.



Thank you to all community members who participated in the art contest. Your creativity and entry to the design of this LOCAL bag was appreciated.

Chico Natural Foods, Safeway, Trader Joes, Raleys and Winco. Support



S&S Organic & Natural Foods, Grocery Outlet, Food Maxx,

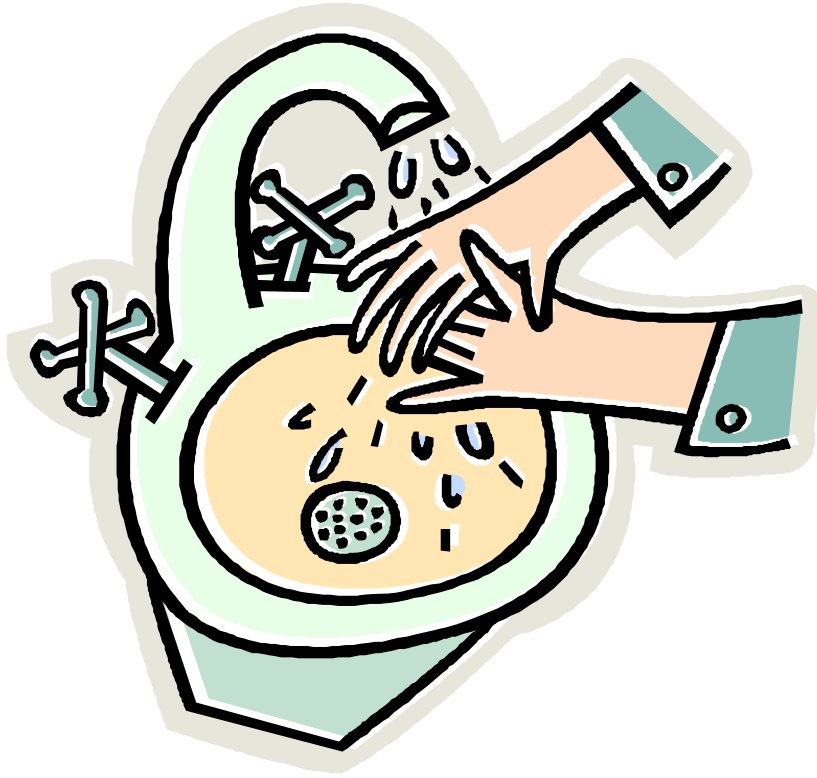
the LOCAL arts, go get your Bring Back Bag® today and start reusing it.

Chico Art Bring Back Bags® are sold at the following stores: Savemart,



# D.I.Y. VACCINATION.

It's the do-it-yourself vaccine that can help keep you healthy! Regular handwashing is a simple, effective way to **keep the germs away and keep you on your feet**. Washing your hands is **especially important** after using the bathroom, handling money, petting a dog or a cat, or blowing your nose or sneezing; before eating; and before, during, **AND** after



the big number

**53**

In one study, only 53% of middle and high school students washed their hands after using the bathroom at school.

preparing food. **Plain soap and warm water work just fine**, but be sure to use warm water and rub your hands all over front and back for 20 seconds. If you can't get to a sink, waterless hand sanitizers will do in a pinch -- **carry a small bottle or a package of wipes or towelettes in your locker, purse, car, backpack, and sports equipment bag**.

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

**WELLNESS IS A WAY OF LIFE!**

*This newsletter is provided as a wellness resource by our School Nutrition Services Program.  
Go to [www.chicousd.nutrislice.com](http://www.chicousd.nutrislice.com)*

# WELLNESS IS A WAY OF LIFE!™

HELPING YOUR WHOLE FAMILY FEEL WELL AND DO WELL!

"D.I.Y. VACCINATION"

## 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!

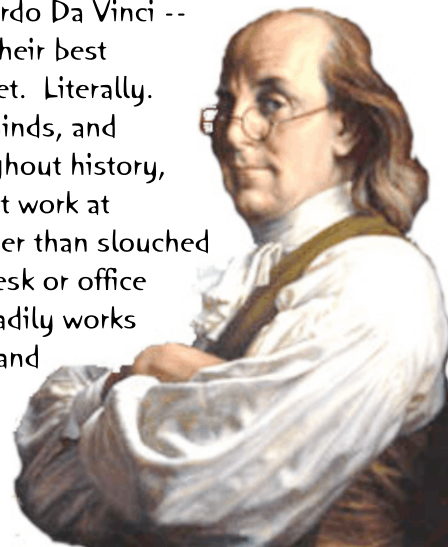
### KIWI

Kiwi is juicy and flavorful and delivers more vitamin C than an equal amount of orange. But, just as you should wash your hands, you should wash vegetables and fruits, too. Simply rinse with cold water, and don't use soap. And by the way, you can eat your washed kiwis skin and all, just like an apple!



## LEARN EASIER

Great thinkers, statesmen, writers, and inventors -- including Ben Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Winston Churchill, Virginia Wolff, Ernest Hemingway, Charles Dickens, and Leonardo Da Vinci -- have done a lot of their best thinking on their feet. Literally. All of these great minds, and many others throughout history, have done their best work at standing desks rather than slouched in a conventional desk or office chair. Standing steadily works your core muscles and promotes better circulation, so you look, feel, think, and LEARN better!



## LIVE HEALTHIER



When you wash your hands in a public restroom that isn't "hands-free," use the towel you dry your hands with to turn off the faucet and turn the door handle. Frequently-touched faucet handles can harbor more than 200,000 germs per square inch!

## PLAY HARDER

There's a reason why kids like to spin in circles, roll down hills, be flung around by their arms, and ride on spinny rides. First of all, it's fun! But these kinds of movements also develop certain cells in the inner ear that help promote balance, vision, and the ability to focus and pay attention. So that kind of play pays off in the classroom!



### First things First



### BREAKFAST @SCHOOL

For first-class learning!



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. Please note that while we can offer fat-free (unflavored or flavored) and unflavored low-fat milk, kids can choose not to take milk if they choose enough other items.



### 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.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

# A BIG THANK YOU TO BARBARA SCHRADER

*With Love From McManus Elementary School*





# ANIMALS AND HATS READY TO GO



SO MANY CHOICES!





THANK YOU SO MUCH!

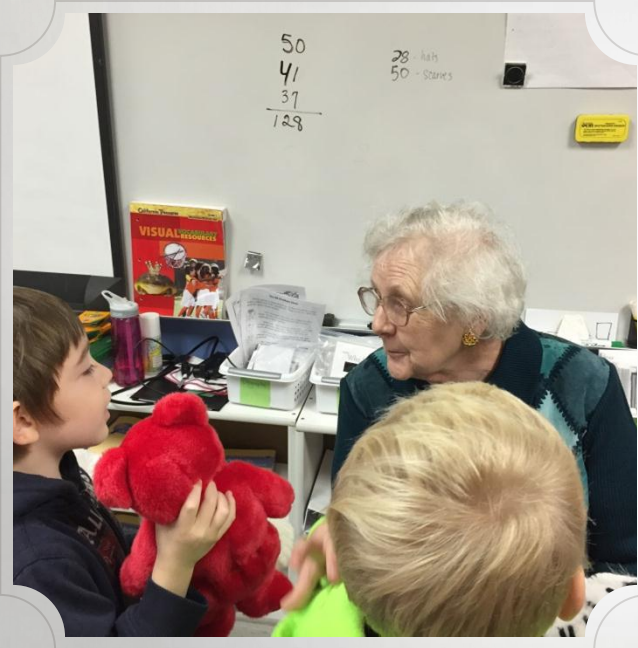




## **HAPPY KIDS!**

Barbara hand knit over 200 hats for our McManus children. In addition each year she knits 900 hats to send to soldiers in Afghanistan. She also knits these gorgeous hats for 150 Loma Vista students each year too! What a busy, generous and amazing woman!





Barbara says she  
can knit a hat an  
hour, if she is in  
a good mood.

# A HAT AND ANIMAL FOR EVERYONE





MRS. BRENNER'S EXCITED TRANSITIONAL  
KINDERGARTEN CLASS SHOWING OFF THEIR  
BEAUTIFUL HATS.





EVERYONE WANTED TO SAY  
“THANK YOU!”





Barbara finds  
all her yarn at  
thrift stores.



# OUR TK CLASS



# IT TOOK A LOT OF WORK TO GET EVERYTHING READY





MAKING THAT SPECIAL CHOICE WAS  
VERY FUN.





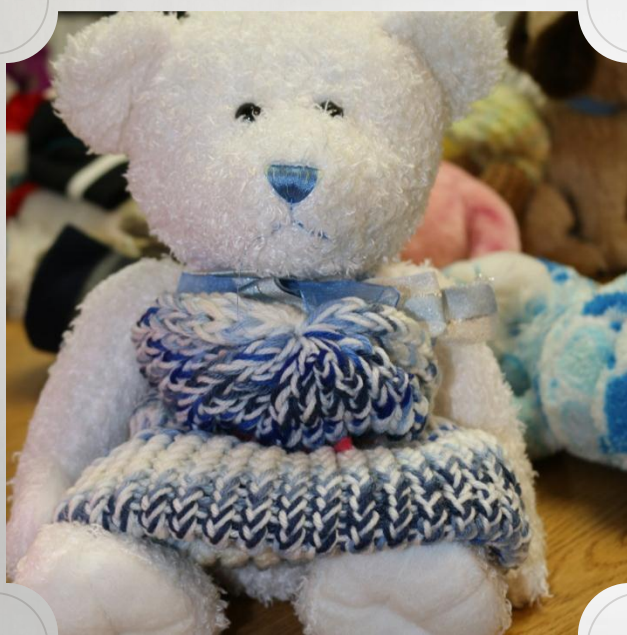


Each animal and  
hat are lovingly  
hand coordinated  
by color.

There will be a lot of  
warm and toasty, and  
very stylish children  
this winter in Chico







Barbara Schrader  
also volunteers 3  
days a week at the  
Cancer Society

EVERYONE ENJOYED THE DAY  
EVEN MRS. KEENE THE PRINCIPAL





# EACH ONE SPECIAL



# MS. NIELSEN'S 1<sup>ST</sup> GRADERS





MRS. MILLER'S KINDERGARTEN AND 1<sup>ST</sup>  
GRADERS SHOWING OFF THEIR NEW  
HATS





# KINDERGARTENERS IN MRS. SCHREIBER'S CLASS



# MRS. PHILLIPI'S CLASS





BARBARA SCHRADER IS  
TRULY A CHICO TREASURE!

