

The Superintendent's Update

June 3, 2015



NEWS FROM KELLY

While this past year definitely presented challenges, there were also many successes. CUSD continues to provide excellent educational opportunities for our students, and this is never more evident than at this time of the year. Our students are winning awards, graduating, and heading off to all parts of the country to further their education and continue their lives. They are able to do this because of the education and support they received here in Chico. Thank you to each and every CUSD staff member as each of you plays a role in the success of our students—and they are why we are all here.

While it is exciting to see our students promote from one grade to the next, and ultimately graduate, it is much harder when it comes to saying goodbye to our colleagues when they make that decision to “graduate” into retirement. We see their happiness, and we want to be happy for them, but still, it is hard to envision not having them with us when we come back and start the new school year. To help those of us they are leaving behind, we ask our retirees to find some time occasionally to come by and say hello as they will be missed. Please join me in congratulating the following CUSD staff members who have either retired during the 2014-2015 school year or who have submitted their intent to retire at the end of this school year. They have my sincere appreciation for their years of dedication to education and I wish them all health and happiness in their retirement.



Name	Position	Years in CUSD	Site
Mary Beebe	3 rd Grade Teacher	20.5	Shasta
Carol Brazelton	Custodian	12	FVHS
Janet Brinson	Director, Educational Services	30	District Office
Linda Brock	IA-Elementary	18	Marigold
Robert Callahan	3 rd Grade Teacher	26	Emma Wilson
Susan Christensen	Secondary Fine Arts Teacher	27	PV & CJHS
Rick Cross	Elementary PE Teacher	22	Elem PE
Beverly Cullen	Instructional Assistant	21	Parkview
Mary Dalton	3 rd Grade Teacher	26	Marigold
Paul DiPasqua	Elementary Fine Arts Teacher	22	Elem Fine Arts
Jeanine Dunsmoor	English Teacher	10.5	BJHS
Deborah Dutra	IA – SE SDC Teacher	27	CJHS
Robert Feaster	Assistant Superintendent, HR	29	District Office



Name	Position	Years in CUSD	Site
Kenneth Garcia	Custodian	15	PVHS
Robert Hanson	Math Teacher	24	CHS
Sandra Herbert	Sr. Library Clerk	31	Neal Dow
Jill Hilton	SH Teacher	9	CHS
Steve Houser	PE Teacher	36	CHS
Charlotte Hughes	Sub Assignment – Receptionist	26	District Office
Ellen Johnson	RSP Teacher	21	Neal Dow
JoAnn Keener	IPS-Classroom	12	Little Chico Creek
Keith Kelley	Telecommunications Specialist	8	M&O
Lynn Koch	Nurse	10	Nurse
Gayle Larson	3 rd Grade Teacher	26	Shasta
Candy Leen	3 rd Grade Teacher	11	Shasta
Diane Loustale	Primary Grades Teacher	26	Sierra View
Bruce Luchessa	1 st Grade Teacher	33	Emma Wilson
Penelope Luchessa	IA-SE RSP Teacher	31	Emma Wilson
Rhonda Mahling	IPS-Healthcare	16	PVHS
Susan Mieske	Counselor	24	PVHS
Elizabeth Mosher	Elementary Fine Arts Teacher	18	Elem Fine Arts
Stephen Nevel	IA-SE RSP Teacher	14	BJHS
Penny Oster	Elementary Fine Arts Teacher	21.5	Elem Fine Arts
Roxanna Parker	IA-SE SDC Teacher	12	CHS
Beverly Patrick	Administrative Assistant	23	District Office
Christine Persson	English Teacher	24.5	CHS
Mark Peters	Math Teacher	16	CJHS
Darelynn Quackenbush	CH Teacher	13	Emma Wilson
Kerry Quevedo	6 th Grade Teacher	16	Emma Wilson
Roland Resendez	Elementary Fine Arts Teacher	36	Elem Fine Arts
Nancy Ritcher	Secondary Fine Arts Teacher	11	PVHS
Eugenia Roberts	Custodian	17	MJHS
Bert Robinson	Therapist	13	Speech
Stephen Ruffo	SMW HVAC	24	M & O
Marian Rupp	Library Media Assistant	30	Sierra View
Randall Salado	Director, M&O and Transportation	13	M & O
David Scott	Assistant Superintendent, ES	28	District Office
Rhys Severe	Principal	11	Marigold
Dave Shockley	Alternative Education Teacher	19	CAL
Dale Spainhower	Grounds Worker	22	M & O
Julie Suniga	Typist Clerk	27	District Office
Patricia Wagner	1 st Grade Teacher	22	Sierra View
Doneld Williams	Assistant Principal	10	Alt Ed
Barry Zeidman	Sr. Custodian	41	Hooker Oak
Sheri Zeno	Alternative Education	36.5	FVHS



As we look forward to next year, I am proud to announce CUSD has been awarded over \$9 million in grant funding to help support and grow numerous programs. These grants include:

- **California Career Pathways Trust for \$5,317,000** over two years. This grant will increase postsecondary opportunities for K-12 students in Career and Technical Education and is an expansion of the existing Butte Glenn Career Pathways Consortium (BGPCPC). The expansion (BGPCPC-X) will work in tandem with the existing program to create a comprehensive regional career pathways in Design, Visual and Media Arts; Production and Managerial Arts; Performing Arts; Information Support and Services; and Ag Mechanics. Collaborative partners include: Butte Glenn Career Pathways Consortium; Feather River College; Navigation North and ConnectEd.
- **Mathematics and Science Partnerships for \$2,856,000** over three years. The Mathematics Task Initiative in Middle and Elementary (MathTIME) is a collaboration between Chico Unified School District (CUSD), Glenn County Office of Education (GCOE), Chico Math Project (CMP) and California State University, Chico (CSUC) to provide professional development for K-8 teachers. Teachers will participate in intensive summer institutes and will have experiences as learners. The primary goal of the program is to strengthen student engagement in mathematics to improve student mathematical achievement. The partnership will focus on increasing teacher Common Core content and pedagogical knowledge, and will also place an emphasis on incorporating the use of technology in lesson delivery. Follow-up coaching sessions and lesson study during the school year will support teachers as they incorporate what they have learned into their own classroom.
- **Drought Response Outreach Program for Schools (DROPS) for \$445,220:** Awarded by the State Water Board, DROPS was developed to provide funds to schools and school districts to reduce storm water pollution and provide water conservation education. The CUSD project will conduct Low Impact Development (LID) demonstration projects on school campuses. Projects will include storm water collection and transfer to school gardens and planting beds. These projects will serve as educational tools to raise awareness of the importance of storm water management and the benefits of LID strategies that protect water quality. Additional training events will be provided for administrators, teachers, maintenance staff, and families, through tours of Project demonstration sites to encourage use of LID strategies. Students will take a leadership role in preliminary Project planning and design, and assist with LID implementation, pre and post monitoring, maintenance, and presentations. Chico Unified School District would like to take this opportunity to thank Timmarie Hamill, Executive Director of the California Urban Streams Alliance-The Stream Team, and her staff for their collaborative support in this endeavor.
- **Byrne JAG Grant for \$362,000 for three years.** This proposal was written in cooperation with the Butte County Sheriff's Office and the grant was awarded to the Butte County Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$714,960 for three years, with CUSD receiving \$362,000 in services from the grant. The additional funding and services will closely mirror the current YouthBuild program. The program titled "From Custody to Community" is a YouthBuild Butte County Collaborative (YB-BCC) and will identify young adult offenders, 16-24 years of age, scheduled to re-enter local communities. YB-BCC will provide the necessary services to help prevent juvenile delinquency and/or gang involvement, curb substance abuse, and reduce recidivism rates. Participants will be placed into community supervision coupled with other age-appropriate treatment services along with an educational and vocational training program.



- **Tobacco-Use Prevention Education Program (TUPE) for \$360,000** over three years. The program will focus on tobacco prevention education and cessation services. The project will serve students in grades 6-12 and will include specific prevention programs at each grade level. The focus will also include the education of school staff, parents, students and community members on issues pertaining to use of emerging nicotine delivery devices (ENDS).
- **Farm to School Implementation for \$98,466** over two years. The intent of this funding is to maintain our strong foundation and current partnerships for procurement of locally grown products to serve in CUSD cafeterias. This additional funding will assist in further developing the infrastructure needed for a sustainable program. The funds will support the creation of a prep-kitchen for nutrition services which will allow food to be prepped at the kitchen prior to delivery at school sites. Produce from local growers, Chico High Ag Henshaw Farm, and school gardens will continue to be procured and used by Nutrition Services.

The selection of CUSD proposals in these highly competitive grant programs is a positive reflection on our District and our staff. It is also an acknowledgement of not only the excellent work currently being done but of our commitment to continue to increase and improve services to students. Huge kudos to **Liz Metzger** and **Janet Brinson** for their work in researching and writing these grants, thus bringing additional resources to support staff and students.

In conclusion, I again thank our school community for the difficult and yet rewarding work that is done across our school district every single day. I cannot imagine a better profession than education—and I also know we have all earned at least a little time away from education, so please have a fun-filled and relaxing summer! I look forward to seeing everyone when we return on August 13. – Kelly

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR EMPLOYEES

Kelli Voss Awarded for Innovation and Educational Excellence: **Kelli Voss**, 5th Grade teacher at Shasta elementary school, was awarded the Superintendent's Award for May. Through Kelli's leadership, Shasta student entered a water conservation contest...and won. Students reported on their experience at the May 20 CUSD Board meeting. Congratulations Kelli and thank you for providing this once in a lifetime opportunity for these students.





CUTA Teachers of the Year: Congratulations to Sue Christiansen and Bob Callahan for being selected as the CUTA Teachers of the Year. Sue, an art teacher at Pleasant Valley High School and Chico Junior High School, was awarded the honor as the Secondary Teacher of the Year. Bob, a 3rd grade teacher at Emma Wilson Elementary School, was awarded the Elementary Teacher of the Year. Sue has been with CUSD for 27 years while Bob has worked for the district for 26 years. Congratulations and thank you to both Bob and Sue. Both will be retiring at the end of the year and both will be greatly missed.



NEWS FROM EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Looking Forward: As we close out the 2014-15 School Year, Educational Services would like to provide this quick look into summer opportunities as well as important dates in the upcoming 2015-16 School Year:

- **Options for Summer Staff Development:** There are many staff development opportunities being offered this summer. These include:
 - Opportunity to secondary teachers to submit proposals to their site principals for summer professional development work surround instructional practices related to state standards
 - Continued work on the shift to Integrated Math
 - Common Core work in the areas of English and Science
 - CUE Rock Star Camp at PVHS June 15-17
 - Chico Math Project at CSUC June 24 through July 1
 - Grammar Camp training scheduled for July 20-21
- **Leadership Team Advance:** The annual Leadership Team Advance will be held August 4-5 in the Library at PVHS.
- **CUSD New Teacher Training:** Training for teachers new to CUSD will be held August 6-7 and 10-11. Topics to be covered include: Professional Learning Communities, Technology Resources Utilized in CUSD, School Safety, Classroom Management, District Approved Curricular Materials, Professionalism and District Culture/Expectations and more.
- **Welcome Back Staff Development Day:** The Back to School Staff Development Day will be held on August 13. Elementary staff will start the day at Pleasant Valley High School and secondary staff will start the day at Chico High School. More details to follow as the staff development offerings are confirmed.
- **District Wide Staff Development Days:** The 2015-16 District Wide Staff Development Days are scheduled for October 6, November 17, February 9, and April 5: Once the District



Leadership Council (DLC) has been developed, the DLC will discuss, research, develop and help to implement the District Wide Meetings for 2015-16.

- **Back to School Night Schedules:** Please see the attached schedule at the end of this update for 2015 Back to School Nights. (Note: A few schools need to confirm beginning and ending times.)

Information Services: The exit of students from the classrooms marks the beginning of many big projects for Information Services. There will also be changes to things such as Aeries Gradebook, Java, and iPads that may affect you.

Network Switch-over: Starting on Thursday, June 11 we will begin migrating all of our sites over to a new network that will provide greater speed and much needed capacity. This project has been years in the planning and we are excited to see it now coming to fruition. The schedule below shows the dates of the rollout. Please anticipate no Internet and no access to CUSD resources (such as Aeries, Escape, printing...) on the day when we will be at your site.

IMPORTANT: The network will be down district-wide on Thursday, June 11 from 4:00 p.m. through 8:00 p.m.

Date	School
June 11, 2015	District Office
June 15, 2015	Hooker Oak/Corp Yard
June 16, 2015	Sierra View
June 17, 2015	Little Chico Creek
June 18, 2015	Chapman/Citrus
June 22, 2015	Fair View
June 23, 2015	McManus
June 24, 2015	Rosedale
June 25, 2015	Parkview/Emma Wilson
June 29, 2015	Chico High/Inspire
June 30, 2015	Pleasant Valley High
July 1, 2015	Bidwell Junior
July 2, 2015	Neal Dow
July 6, 2015	Marigold/Loma Vista
July 7, 2015	Shasta
July 8, 2015	Chico Junior
July 9, 2015	Marsh Junior

Java, Shockwave, and Silverlight Being Discontinued: This September, Google will discontinue support for a multitude of Internet plug-ins. This action could have far-reaching implications for both staff and students. Certain types of plug-ins are notorious for being security vulnerabilities and Google has officially pulled the plug on them. Below are the most popular plug-ins that will no longer be supported in the Chrome browser, nor in Chromebooks.

- Java
- RealPlayer
- QuickTime
- Shockwave
- Silverlight

NOTE: Flash and Adobe Reader will continue to be supported in Chrome.



Chico Unified will not be able to avoid this change as it is Google who has pulled the plug. How might this affect you? This transition could represent a challenge for any school that is relying on older websites or programs that use plug-ins such as Java. Information Services recommends that you begin to explore alternatives to incompatible websites and programs as they become known to you. We are always here to help.

For now both Firefox and Internet Explorer will continue to allow the plug-ins, however in time they will follow suit. This coming year is our opportunity to migrate away from Java and Shockwave before all support ends.

Changes to iPads and iPad Apps: A couple of years have passed since we started evaluating iPads. They have proven to be a valuable resource and during that time Information Services has learned a great deal about them as well. We are happy to announce upcoming changes that will not only get future iPads into your hands more quickly, but will also give you much more control over how you can use them.

How Will These Changes Affect You?

- **New iPads for Staff:** Newly purchased staff iPads will be delivered directly to you without Information Services having to configure them. You can now use your own iCloud account on district iPads. We are finalizing a set of instructions so that you can setup your new iPad as soon as it is in your hands.
- **New iPads for Students:** All new student iPads will still need to be setup by the Information Services department so that future apps can be automatically installed onto classroom sets all at once.
- **Previously Purchased iPads:** All iPads that were purchased prior to April 2015 will need to be reset to factory default. In other words, all older iPads must be erased and re-setup using your individual iCloud account.

We diligently searched for a way to integrate previously purchased iPads into the new management system without performing a factory reset, however, there were no other options available. The Information Services department is here to help! Contact **Phil Brock** for assistance with backing up any pictures before erasing your iPad. The best way to request assistance is to create a helpdesk ticket at <https://helpdesk.chicousd.org/>. Once this process is finished you will be able to access your iPad with iTunes and install apps as you see fit.

Aeries Gradebook: For some time now there have been reports from Aeries that their old Silverlight Gradebook would soon be phased out. Aeries has now informed us that July 1, 2015, is their cutoff day. After that date Aeries will no longer support the old gradebook. Because of this we have no choice but to migrate to the new gradebook.

I know how difficult it can be to change from something that you have grown comfortable using to something different, but please know that the Information Services Department is here to help in that transition. Our staff will be available at the start of school on our Live Portal at <http://support.chicousd.org> from 7:30-11:30 a.m. to provide you with immediate support. **The Live Portal is a great resource when time is short and you need help right now.**

Aeries also has some great training videos to make this transition easier. The video titled *Transition to HTML5 Gradebook* is especially useful. The Aeries Training Video link is at: <http://www.aeries.com/training-support/support-videos>



NEWS FROM BUSINESS SERVICES

Facilities & Construction Department 2015 Summer Projects

New Construction					
Bidwell Jr. Modernization	Chico Jr. New Science Building & Modernization	Marsh Jr. Multipurpose Building	Marsh Jr. New Science Building		
Solar Projects					
Bidwell Jr.	Emma Wilson	Neal Dow	Rosedale	Sierra View	
Safety & Security Projects – New Window Coverings					
Chico Jr.	Emma Wilson	Inspire	McManus	Parkview	Shasta
Citrus	Hooker Oak	Little Chico Creek	Neal Dow	Rosedale	Sierra View
Site Accessibility Upgrades- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)					
Citrus	Emma Wilson				
Proposition 39 – Clean Energy Act					
HVAC Replacements					
Bidwell Jr.	Chico Jr.	Citrus			
Lighting Retrofit					
Bidwell Jr.	Chico Jr.	Citrus	Emma Wilson	Hooker Oak	Sierra View
City of Chico & CUSD Partnership – Pedestrian Safety Improvements					
Bidwell Jr.	Chico Jr.	Citrus	Emma Wilson	McManus	Marsh Jr.
Miscellaneous Construction					
Chico High Structural Roof Repair at Administration Building		Inspire – New Entrance to Dance Room			

Maintenance/Operations and Transportation: Can you believe another school year is coming to an end? Our Maintenance and Custodial team members will be very busy helping at some of our secondary school sites to get ready for graduation. As students and staff are looking forward to a well-deserved summer break, M/O team members are gearing up for a host of summer projects throughout the District. Some of these projects include replacement of carpets, roofing, painting, HVAC units, improvements to some irrigation systems and more.



M/O hosted a field trip of first graders from Hooker Oak School on May 14. It was very exciting to see the first graders ask so many questions about each department at the corporation yard. We met in the plans room for introductions and showed them the original blue prints of their school. The tour guides were **John Carver** (Director M/O/T), **Vince Enserro** (Director-Nutrition Services), **Eric German** (Supervisor M/O), **Sean Sullivan** (Driver Trainer) and **Lalanya Rothenberger** (Construction Manager). Before we toured the mechanics shop, the carpenter and maintenance shop, the warehouse, and the bakery everyone



received official name badges and safety glasses. We gave them a ride on a big school bus and for most of them it was their first time on a bus! They got to learn about our solar panels and then it was back to the plans room for a treat bag and goodbyes. We thank teacher **Jennifer Rossovich** for allowing us the pleasure of hosting this field trip. Teacher Jennifer reported the next day that some of the students wore their name badges and safety glasses to school. We also thank **Darci Bruggman** (M/O Coordinator) for her hard work and creativity in making this a success.

Creative Problem Solving: The top row of seating of Bidwell Jr. High bleachers was removed and now when the bleachers are fully out nearly four feet was gained from the side line. Awesome!



Water Conservation: M/O started a proactive approach to water conservation during the 2009/2010 school year by shutting off all irrigation controllers and time clocks between the months of November through March and we continue this practice today. During the 2012/2013 school year we began to install Low-Flow toilets, urinals and sink faucets. Also in 2013 we installed "Smart Irrigation Controllers" at all of our sites. The Smart Controller allows the irrigation run times to be determined by the site weather condition rather than a preprogrammed time. These controllers have a rain sensor that shuts off irrigation if it senses rain and keeps it off based on how much rain it recorded. Along with installing water efficient nozzles, we have achieved over a 25% reduction/savings on water use. We are complying with the California Water Contingency Plan which was filed with the Public Utilities Commission on April 28, 2015, with a requested date of June 1, 2015. Please visit the following link for more information. https://www.calwater.com/docs/conservation/proposed_rule_14.1.pdf

Nutrition Services is closing out another wonderful school year. The nutrition team again provided our children with many healthy, tasty and fun breakfasts, lunches, snacks and dinners this school year. Meal service time is always filled with so many smiles and sounds of laughter from CUSD students. I hope that all our students enjoyed the school year as much as we did. We look forward to seeing all the students return again in the fall and wish all those moving on to the next phase in their lives the very best. Thank you for joining us every day.

This school year we had many new team members join us and some who will be leaving us in retirement. This year we have **Marla Stratton**, the kitchen manager at Bidwell Jr. and **Judy Donnelly** Cafeteria Assistant at McManus retiring after very long and successful careers with CUSD. I would like to wish them the best of times in their retirement and thank them for all they did for CUSD students over the years. We also hired some new faces this year. Joining our team are: **Jesse Simpson**, bakery manager and **Thomas Hoffman**, kitchen manager at Chico Jr. Jesse is a professional baker with 20 years of baking experience. Thomas is a professionally trained chef with 10 years of experience in the food service industry. Welcome both of our new team members to CUSD.

As we close out the regular school year with a bang I want to say thank you to all our NS team members for making every day the best for our guests and I would like to say thank you to those that helped serve the tasty food at our end-of-the-year BBQs at each school. The BBQ event is such a fun day and a great chance to see CUSD students and families and to say hello. Just as one door closes another opens. We will begin our summer feeding program on June 8. This is our third year for summer feeding. Please come join us for a fun meal at one of the following sites.



2015 Summer Feeding Sites

Location	Dates of Operation **NO SERVICE JULY 3**	Breakfast	Lunch
Chapman Elementary	June 8-August 7	7:30-9:00am	11:30-1:00pm
Field House (20 th St.)	June 8–August 7	--	11:30-1:00pm
Boys & Girls Club	June 8–August 7	9:00-9:30am	12:00-12:30pm
Bidwell Jr. High	June 8–August 7 August 3–12 (BJHS Only)	--	11:30-1:00pm
Neal Dow Intersession	June 9–June 26 July 27–August 7	--	11:30-11:45am
McManus Intersession	June 9–June 26 July 27–August 7	--	11:30-11:45am
Little Chico Creek	June 8–August 7	--	11:30-1:00pm
Hooker Oak Park	June 8–August 7	--	11:30-12:30pm
Parkview	June 8–August 7	--	11:30-1:00pm
BMX	June 8–August 7	--	12:00-12:30pm
Nature Center	June 8–August 14	--	11:15 – 11:45am
Chico Jr. High	June 9–June 26 August 3–12 (CJHS Only) July 27–August 7	--	11:30-12:00pm
Citrus	June 9–June 26 July 27–August 7	--	12:00-12:30pm
Rosedale	June 9–June 26 July 27–August 7	--	12:00-12:30pm
Community Baseball Park	Saturday's Only June 13, 20, 27 July 11, 18, 25 August 1, 8	-- -- -- --	10:30-12:30pm
Marigold Special Ed (Non-Summer Feeding Site)	June 15–July 10	--	



NEWS FROM HUMAN RESOURCES

Farewell from Bob: On June 30 I will close the chapter on my 35 years in education and 29 years in Chico Unified. I want to thank those of you have dedicated your time, your lives and your careers to serving the students in our District. It takes great patience, stamina, fortitude and dedication to do what you do for our students. Every district has buildings, busses, etc., but it is the *people* of CUSD that make it so very special. Thank you for allowing me the privilege of working alongside you. I wish you well as you continue on to serve our students. –Bob Feaster

Negotiations: It has been a long and challenging school year. It was a very emotional spring with the tension related to negotiations, but in the end we were able to reach agreements with CUTA, CSEA 110, and CUMA that will help keep the District fiscally secure while providing increases in wages and benefits to the great employees who make up Chico Unified School District. Like any good family, during the difficult times there were things said and done that upset some of our family members but we came through difficult times intact and are continuing to work in the best interests of all involved, especially the students of CUSD.

Changes: We have over 30 certificated and over 20 classified retirements this year. Change is inevitable and provides us the opportunity to thank those leaving and welcome new faces for next year. This is an exciting time of the year for all involved.

Health and Wellness Center: Many CUSD employees will have time off during the summer. This is a great time to make sure you are healthy. The Health and Wellness center offered through the Butte Schools Self-Funded Programs (BSSP) is a great place to get started or keep going on being healthy. BSSP opened the Health and Wellness Center in January of 2014 with a goal of improving the wellness of BSSP members and to reduce the cost of care BSSP members seek. Recently, cost data indicates the average office visit at the HWC costs less than those billed through the Anthem provider network, and member out of pocket costs have been reduced with \$0 or \$25 copayments for the HWC visits. A number of patients have been identified as having multiple wellness risk factors and there have been many success stories of early disease and condition detection for patients.

In its first 15 months of operation, Ken, Karen, Robyn and Janice have provided care to patients in 10,102 visits! To schedule an appointment, call 866-959-9355 (toll-free) or 530-879-7582. The HWC is open on the following schedule, subject to change:

Monday	8AM-7PM	Closed 1PM-2PM	<i>The Health and Wellness Center will be closed on the following days in observance of Healthstat, Inc., holidays:</i>
Tuesday	6AM-7PM		
Wednesday	7AM-7PM		
Thursday	7AM-7PM		
Friday	7AM-5PM	Closed 12PM-1PM	
Saturday	9AM-1PM		
Sunday	Closed		

- New Years Day (January 1)
- Good Friday (Friday before Easter)
- Memorial Day (last Monday of May)
- Independence Day (July 4)
- Labor Day (first Monday of September)
- Thanksgiving (fourth Thursday of November)
- Christmas (December 25)

The Health and Wellness Center is located at [500 Cohasset Road, Suite 24](#) in Chico



Classified HR: As the school year comes to an end, we want to remind everyone that the Classified Human Resources will continue to offer job opportunities over the summer. Employees will receive Job Site Transfer/Seniority notices from the District mailed to the home for classifications in which the employee currently holds a regular 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 continually 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 ways to find information about current recruitments are through the link above or through Edjoin.org. Be sure to check one of these websites on a weekly basis to ensure that you do not miss an opportunity.

The following current job postings can be found on EdJoin and through the Chico Unified School District website:

Classification	Closing Date	Salary
Impacted Language Liaison (Hmong/English) Classified Staff	6/4/2015 11:45 pm	\$12.86-\$15.63/Hr plus longevity steps. (Placement is at the first step for new employees.)
Substitute School Bus Driver Classified Staff	Until Filled	\$12.86/Hour
Substitute Licensed Vocational Nurse Classified Staff	Until Filled	\$17.66/Hour

Job Opportunities - 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

Best Schools in the United States: For the fourth consecutive year Chico High School has been awarded the Silver Badge for Best High Schools in the United States by the U.S. News and World Report. The top 3% of schools are awarded a Gold Badge, the next 10% are awarded a Silver Badge and the next 20% are awarded the Bronze Award. Congratulations to the entire staff for making Chico High School one of the Best High Schools in the United States!

Congrats PVHS ACE-LIFE HERO: ACE-LIFE HERO students **Cheyenne Beasley, Sarah Holden** and **Jacob Blevins** are featured in CalVoices publication for the California State Parks in recognition of their "State Park Safety" presentation at the Safety Fair...way to go!!!!

And huge appreciation goes out to ACE-LIFE HERO teacher, **Laura Dietle**. The link below has pictures and the article: <https://calparks.wordpress.com/2015/05/22/kids-teaching-kids-about-state-parks/>



PVHS House of Blue Wins Big! I encourage all staff to check out the award winning work done by PVHS House of Blue students. Following are several examples:



- Video made by PV House of BLUE students **Trevor Parks** and **Will Thorton** Please switch the settings in YouTube to Full 1080 p for best viewing: <https://youtu.be/Q01Sq0QU6cg>
- Two videos from the Statewide Directing Change Contest about Ending the Silence on Mental Illness.
 - First place Regional Winners: **Skyler Ramsden** and **Madison Royal**-"Just Like You" They won \$500 cash and competed in Sacramento at the state level: <https://youtu.be/UfdgbbM9YUI>
 - First place Regional Winners & 2nd Place in the STATE (Out of 740 video entries) **Jake Frank** and **Sarah Gray**-"What Defines Us" They won \$500 cash and competed in Sacramento and won second place at the state level, and won another \$500! <https://youtu.be/e2pqPR11ihU>

Congratulations to these incredibly talented House of BLUE students and huge kudos to **Michael Peck**, their fantastic teacher. Without his guidance and dedication, this award winning program would not exist.



Los Tambores de Chapman Performed at CSU, Chico Graduation: Congratulations to Los Tambores de Chapman! This amazing Chapman Elementary drumming group led by teacher **Kathy Naas** was selected to perform at the CSU, Chico School of Education Recognition Ceremony on Wednesday, May 13, 2015, in Laxson Auditorium. And perform they did--for over 15 minutes with each student having their own solo. I am so

proud of and impressed by our students! Ms. Naas and principal **Ted Sullivan** sent their appreciation to those who supported this event, including the many Chapman teachers and families in attendance as well as **Sheryl**, the bus driver. What an incredible experience for these students. Thank you Ms. Naas, and kudos to each of our student performers!

Parent Learners:

On Tuesday, May 12, 2015, Bidwell Junior High School celebrated the parents who attend the on-site English Learners class as well as the instructor who volunteers her time to help parents learn English. The class is held each Monday and Wednesday at Bidwell Jr. High School. Thank you **Martha Newton** for coordinating these positive opportunities for parents!



Parent University at Bidwell Junior High School:



Thank you **Martha Newton** for also coordinating Parent University at BJHS. At the most recent session, Upward Bound presented from Chico State and the parents and their children listened intently. Each family received a binder with college readiness information and parents signed up for the

Upward Bound Program that will help them in the coming years. In their next session, parents viewed the video "College: Make It Happen" in Spanish, and Chico State interns spoke with the students to answer any questions. On May 27, Butte College came and talked about their



programs, the Dream Act, and answered questions as well. It is great to have both fathers and mothers at these events and they are so interested!!! --*Martha Newton, Targeted Case Manager, Bidwell JHS*

STEM at Bidwell JHS: Principal **Judi Roth** attended the Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Program Launch Wednesday at CSU, Chico. She is proud to announce that BJHS will be offering two sections of the PLTW Gateway course: Medical Detectives. BJHS will send two science teachers for training to San Diego at the end of June. These two teachers are excited about bringing PLTW to BJHS and are looking forward to an educational adventure with their students as they implement this project based curriculum. Way to go Bidwell!

Chapman English Learner Students Earn Redesignation: Chapman celebrates the redesignation of 16 English Language Learners. Congratulations to all these amazing students!



The Bidwell Jr. High Band Concert was held Wednesday, May 20, at 7:00pm in the Center for the Arts on the Pleasant Valley High School Campus. The combined bands from McManus, Little Chico Creek, and Parkview Elementary, under the direction of **Mr. Tanner Johns**, joined them as well. *Thank you ~ Ryan Heimlich*

PVHS Student Wins Enloe Junior Volunteer of Year: Congratulations to PVHS senior, **Jacob Blevins**. Jacob was selected as Enloe Hospital's Jr. Volunteer of the Year for the 2nd time! In the last two years, Jacob has volunteered 455 hours and was recently hired at Enloe as a Guest Service Representative. Jacob received the Presidential Service Award (2 years) and received Enloe's Jr. Volunteer Scholarship and Chico Community Scholarship. During the HERO job-shadow rotations, Jacob was the first high school student to be allowed in Critical Care. As part of his HERO CTE placement, Jacob also completed job-shadows in Surgery, DCU, GI, Pre PACA, Post PACA and ICU. Jacob plans to attend Butte College in the fall for Nursing. Jacob was HERO student of the year and the Yearbook's Editor in Chief. Huge Kudos to Jacob and his HERO teacher, **Laura Dietle**!

PVHS Students Recognized for Work with Elementary and Preschool Students: As part of the Careers with Kids programs at Pleasant Valley High School, PVHS students are placed with mentors at Smart Start Preschool, Innovative Preschool, Marigold Elementary, Loma Vista and PVHS. This year, approximately 90 students worked with mentors in their classrooms. The students are formally evaluated five or six times per year. According to PVHS teacher **Laura Dietle**, who runs the Careers with Kids program, this year's students have received more perfect scores on evaluations than ever before. This signifies the cream of the crop students I have the privilege to teach this year," Dietle said. An example of such positive feedback came from mentors at Innovative Preschool with this evaluation of senior **Emily Gebicke**:

"As stated in other evaluations, Emily's "shift" involves walking right into a busy classroom in full motion. We could always count on Emily to just jump right in! We've observed Emily survey the room and go directly to whichever "table" seems to be in



need of assistance. Now that's initiative! As the group becomes "involved" in their activities Emily takes it upon herself to "set up" our lunch tables/ready other lunchtime items...We've noticed Emily using "our teacher" type language with children on a daily basis...Emily is calm and our younger children are drawn to her. Children ask Emily for assistance, hold her hand, love to sit in her lap at circle time and just know that "they matter"! As the year moved along we observed Emily's confidence building. She knows all our children/staff. Her smile lets us know that she is present in the moment with our children (this is huge!) We feel lucky to have had Emily join us this year! We'll miss her. As she graduates from PV and moves along through life, we hope that she always keeps a little bit of "Innovative Preschool" in her memories...Best of luck in all that you do Emily!!"

As you can see, this work is beneficial to both the young students receiving attention from Emily and other high school students like her, but also provides positive support to the younger students. Thank you to Laura Dietle and her amazing students for the excellence work they do with young students!

Best of Show: Pleasant Valley High School art students earned four (4) Best of Shows at the Silver Dollar Fair this year (high school exhibit). Each student received \$100, a trophy, a ribbon, and the chance to enter their art in the California State Fair.



Left to right, **Nicole Dully, Minjoo Kim, Jessica Skantze, and Yante Van Ham.**

NEWS FROM OUR COMMUNITY

Mom's Reading Rewards - \$500 Cash Prize: Mom's Restaurant concluded this year's Reading Rewards program, tallied up all the bookmarks redeemed over the course of the 2014-15 school year and is delighted to announce that CORE Butte Charter School, with an astounding 28% of the total, is the winner of this year's \$500 cash prize! Second and third place belong to Chico Country Day School (18%) and **McManus Elementary** (9%). Kristina Trento, Community Outreach Coordinator for Mom's Restaurant brainstormed several fun and easy incentive programs to get kids and families motivated to participate, and increase numbers next year. The ideas are attached at the end of this update. You may like to implement these ideas next year or they might just spark an idea of your own! If you are interested in discussing any of them, please call or email Kristina Trento at: 530.342.7561 ext 207 or kristina@momschico.com and she will be happy to help out with any details. Together, we can influence the direction of our world in a profound way! Well done! ~ Sincerely, Kristina Trento, Community Outreach Coordinator, Mom's Restaurant

Thank You from Eric Nilsson, Principal, Inspire School of Arts and Sciences ~

On behalf of Inspire School of Arts and Sciences, I want to thank **Mike Bruggeman** and his students, **Justin Ledyard, Raymond Salas** and **Jasper Travers** for the work they have done to develop a preliminary campus design.



I contacted Mike last semester to see if it would be possible, and he assigned these talented students with the task of working with the staff at Inspire to come up with a design that would be consistent with the mission and vision of the school.

They have worked diligently all semester, and just recently presented their design to staff in a meeting after school. The CHS Engineering/Architecture program is preparing students with the skills to be successful right out of high school. They are effective communicators, knowledgeable about architectural design, friendly and welcoming, excellent collaborators, innovative and creative.

We are going to take this original concept and work with students in the program next semester to develop individual spaces in more detail.

Inspire is deeply grateful to the Mike and his students. This is a shining example of education that is relevant, engaging and challenges students to think deeply while preparing them for college and career.

Thank You Letter to Hooker Oak:

Dear Brian,

*Congratulations and a huge thank you for putting the time and effort into **The Doll Collection!** The play was absolutely awesome.*

On a personal level, what a wonderful thing for the kids at Hooker Oak. As you are well aware, our kids have grown up at Hooker Oak. I am pretty familiar with a number of kids who participated, and notable were a number of kids who tend to shy away or stay in the background in social situations but really seemed to thrive and were confident in their roles. They really found an opportunity to express themselves and get involved. How they performed, how their families reacted, and how the Hooker Oak community encouraged everyone was incredible.

On a professional level, thank you for being a leader who is focused on the creation of a vision of excellence for Hooker Oak, who can see past just reacting to compliance and accountability. I run across many leaders in schools and districts who are focused on reacting to what is tested, rather than giving learning and assessment a larger context. You and the staff are doing whatever it takes to grow the vision, to make the Theater Program a reality for Hooker Oak. I can't wait to see how kids and our community grow as a result of your and the staff's hard work.

Thank you - Best - Brad

CUSD IN THE NEWS

[Letter: Schools need to take stand against bottled water](#)

[Chico donates \\$173500 for student scholarships](#)

[Chico school district receives \\$6 million grant for career-focused programs](#)

[Chico Unified, Butte County schools prepare free summer lunch programs](#)

CHICO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Contact: Janet Brinson, Director
(530) 891-3000, ext. 105



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

May 27, 2015

State Schools Chief Tom Torlakson Announces Award of Career Pathways Trust Grants

SAN JOSE—State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson awarded \$244 million in grants today to 40 programs that blend academic and career technical education, connect employers with schools and train students for jobs in high-demand fields, such as health care, advanced manufacturing, information technology and software development. Chico Unified School District is one of the recipients of these competitive grant dollars.

The grants are provided through the California Career Pathways Trust (CCPT) program, which is the largest program of its kind in the nation. The program has provided nearly \$500 million in career tech grants over two years.

“My top priority is to better prepare California students for college and careers in the 21st century,” Torlakson said. “Career Pathways provides vital support for innovative and effective career tech programs that keep students engaged in school and prepare them for real-world jobs.” Chico Unified School District Superintendent Kelly Staley added that CUSD has a history of strong Career Pathway programs. “These dollars will both expand Career Pathway opportunities and enhance the existing Career Pathway offerings, allowing for increased student and community participation.”

The state Legislature created CCPT in 2013 and allocated \$250 million for the program in the state’s 2013-14 budget. Last year, Torlakson awarded grants to [39 recipients](#). After seeing the program’s popularity – the state received 123 applications requesting \$709 million in CCPT grants last year – lawmakers approved an additional \$250 million for this year. The program builds on Torlakson’s [Career Readiness Initiative](#).

CCPT grant recipients are tasked with creating sustained career pathways programs that link businesses, K–12 schools, and community colleges to prepare students for the 21st century workplace. The California Department of Education (CDE) administers the program. The department worked with the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office and the California Workforce Investment Board to identify the strongest applications based on a rigorous evaluation process.

“Career Pathways not only provides students with specific skills and training needed in modern industries but it also helps employers fill high-demand jobs created by the new economy,” Torlakson said. “These college and career ready students are what employers need to grow the regional economies of California.”

CCPT-funded programs involve many dynamic sectors of California’s economy, such as health care, engineering, transportation, agriculture, and public service. Career Pathways programs

connect education to business through work-based learning that allows students to explore and experience real jobs, under the mentorship of professionals in these industries. Work-based learning provides students with valuable opportunities to learn what is involved in various jobs, what kinds of skills are needed to be successful and whether they want to pursue a similar job for a career.

“With the Career Pathways program we are strengthening partnerships among industry, K-12 public schools and community colleges, and we are providing students with the type of career technical training that employers will reward with good paying jobs,” said California Community Colleges Chancellor Brice W. Harris.

The grant awarded to Chico Unified School District aims to support career pathway programming in both Butte and Glenn Counties through professional development for teachers, curriculum development and industry engagement. The project features career pathways in the following industries:

- **Information and Communication Technology** with pathways in Networking; Software and Systems Development; Information Support and Services; Games and Simulation
- **Arts, Media and Entertainment** with pathways in Design, Visual and Media Arts; Performing Arts; Production and Managerial Arts;
- **Agriculture and Natural Resources** with pathways in Ag Mechanics and Ornamental Horticulture.

Listed below are the fiscal agents for each of the 40 grant recipients, all of which have multiple partners. More information on each of these grant awards is available upon request.

Up to \$15 million per award regional grant category:

1. Alameda County Office of Education
2. Galt Joint Union High School District
3. Kern Community College District
4. Los Angeles Community College District
5. Riverside Community College District
6. San Diego County Office of Education
7. San Jose Evergreen Community College District
8. Sutter County Office of Education
9. Ventura County Office of Education
10. West Hills Community College District

Up to \$6 million per award regional grant category:

1. Fortuna Union High School District
2. Metropolitan Education District
3. Templeton Unified School District
4. Visalia Unified School District

Up to \$6 million per award local grant category:

1. **Chico Unified School District**
2. Clovis Unified School District
3. Downey Unified School District
4. East Side Union High School District
5. Eden Area Regional Occupational Program

6. Fresno Unified School District
7. Imperial Community College District
8. Inyo County Office of Education
9. Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District
10. Northern Humboldt Union High School District
11. Pasadena Unified School District
12. Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District
13. Porterville Unified School District
14. San Francisco Community College District
15. San Luis Obispo County Office of Education
16. Santa Ana Unified School District
17. Santa Clarita Community College District
18. Shasta-Tehama-Trinity Joint Community College District
19. SIATech
20. Siskiyou Joint Community College District

Up to \$600,000 per award local grant category:

1. Delhi Unified School District
2. Irvine Unified School District
3. Merced County Office of Education
4. Patterson Joint Unified School District
5. River Oaks Academy Charter
6. Sacramento Academic and Vocational Academy

###

The [California Department of Education](#) (CDE) is a state agency led by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson. You may also follow him through CDE's [mobile Web site](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [YouTube](#).

2015 Fair Exhibits



Tweet



Students tackle stigma

Pleasant Valley High School students' video take second place in statewide competition

This article was published on **05.28.15**.

Two students in **Michael Peck's** ROP video production class at Pleasant Valley High School—**Jake Frank** and **Sarah Gray**—recently took second place in the statewide student video contest, **Directing Change**, for their one-minute-long public service announcement, "What Defines Us" (still from video pictured).

The competition, sponsored by Each Mind Matters: California's Mental Health Movement and the state Mental Health Services Authority, is part of broader efforts to prevent suicide and reduce stigma and discrimination related to mental illness. Frank and Gray's video focuses on how mental illness should never be considered a person's defining characteristic. As one of the video's subjects says: "My friends do not see me for my disorder, because it's not who I am—it does not define me."

The students were honored during a red carpet event at the Crest Theatre in Sacramento on May 19.

See the video at tinyurl.com/pvwhatdefinesus.



Related stories this week:

Immigration movement

Future of bill to extend health coverage to undocumented immigrants in California is uncertain.

Exercise your life long

Older men who regularly exercise are likely to live longer than those who don't.

Advertisement

Golden Gate Bridge Suicide Survivor To Share His Story In Sonoma County

The talk on mental health, understanding and raising awareness is set for Friday and is hosted by Sonoma Co. Health Services Department.

By **SUSAN C. SCHENA** (Patch Staff)

May 27, 2015

Share							
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News from **Sonoma County Department of Health Services:**

Experience Kevin Berthia’s moving personal story “The Impact of Listening” as he shares his journey of hope and recovery. In 2005, Berthia planned to take his own life by jumping off the Golden Gate Bridge but it was a first responder’s listening ear that eventually brought Kevin to the safe side of the railing.

The Sonoma County Department of Health Services (DHS) Behavioral Health Division and Community Baptist Church Collaborative is part of **Each Mind Matters: California’s Mental Health Movement**, which includes millions of individuals and thousands of organizations working to advance mental health.

May is **Mental Health Matters Month**, a time to raise awareness around mental health and fight stigma so that the millions of Californians experiencing mental health challenges can

receive support.

The speaking event is Friday, May 29 at 5:30 p.m. Kevin Berthia's presentation is 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. at Community Baptist Church, 1620 Sonoma Rd., Santa Rosa.

Berthia, suicide survivor and suicide prevention advocate, will be joined by Michael Kennedy, Behavioral Health Division Director, DHS and Reverend Lee Turner, Pastor, Community Baptist Church.

Half of us will experience a mental health challenge in our lifetime, but many won't seek support because of fear of judgment, isolation and discrimination. In fact, research shows that with support and treatment 70 to 90 percent of individuals report reduced symptoms and improved quality of life. A recent RAND study found stigma reduction efforts like CalMHSA's partnership of California's counties is successfully reaching the population most at risk for mental health challenges to increase support and encourage help-seeking.

- **Related:**
- **Parents and Teens Need Access to Mental Health Care**
- **Why Men And Teens Refuse To Go To Therapy**

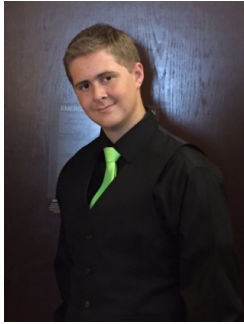
For more

info: www.EachMindMatters.org or www.sonomacounty.org/health/about/behavioralhealth.asp

--Shutterstock image

BY LAURIE WILLIAMS / CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Published: May 22, 2015 Updated: May 24, 2015 11:28 p.m.



COURTESY OF JARED HINKLE

You don't have to be a therapist to help a friend facing mental health challenges, according to five young Riverside County filmmakers taking top awards in this year's "Directing Change" student film contest.

"I hadn't thought about it that much before we started talking about this film, but you can make a big difference in someone's life," said 15-year-old Jared Hinkle, a freshman at Murrieta Valley High School.

VIEW THE FILMS

To view the full list of the regional winners and their winning films, [click here](#).

Reaching out – seeing past the stigma of mental illness – can help someone who is struggling with depression, or even prevent a suicide. That's the message presented in 420 60-second films entered in the contest, representing 1226 students from 112 high schools and seven University of California campuses.

Riverside County first-place winners were Jared, who partnered with classmates Matthew Ryan and Cameron Estacio to create, "My Best Friend" in the Suicide Prevention category; "Hidden," by Ashton Luuloo of Paloma Valley High School in Menifee, in the Ending the Silence category; and "Bricks," written and directed by UC Riverside student Steven Le, in the UC Suicide Prevention category.

The narration Ashton wrote and performed for his video reflects "Know the Signs," a statewide suicide prevention social marketing campaign built on three messages: know the signs, find the words and reach out.

The campaign lists several signs that a person may be depressed or even on a path to suicide, including personality changes, withdrawal from usual activities, sleep changes, reckless behavior and substance abuse.

"Depression is felt, but not always seen – everyone is different," Ashton says in his film, which shows teens facing emotional challenges at school. "Take time to notice the signs."

In "My Best Friend," Jared and Matthew are actors as well as filmmakers, showing how friends can intervene by paying attention and taking steps to encourage someone who is suffering to seek help.

Confronting the sigma of mental illness is vital when it comes to young people, said Matthew Z'berg, a spokesman for the third annual contest held by Each Mind Matters:

California's Mental Health Movement, and the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA), a state-funded effort to empower young people to promote suicide prevention.

"When young people feel alone in dealing with mental health challenges, they may be afraid to talk about it, and not get the help they need," Z'berg said. "Delay in accessing needed mental health services is a missed opportunity for youth to improve their lives and reach their potential."

In any given year, about 20 percent of people between 13 to 18 years old experience mental health challenges, Z'berg said.

The Directing Change video contest is a yearly highlight for Murrieta Valley video production teacher Ella Harrison, who said the competition always has a big impact on her students.

"Suicide prevention and ending the silence of mental illness are two tough topics to discuss, but the level of engagement I see from my students throughout this project is amazing," she said. "It's opened the door to many candid conversations about these topics that affect so many of our youth. Students walk away from this project feeling like they've produced something that can make a difference in our world."

The rewards are nice, she said – winners received \$500, a trip to Sacramento and got to meet film and TV director Bradley Buecker of "Glee," "American Horror Story," "The New Normal" and "Nip/Tuck." The contest's real benefit lies in what participants learn about speaking up for other people.

All submissions were judged by volunteer experts in mental health and suicide prevention, members of the media and professionals in filmmaking and video production. The films were judged based on how the entries creatively explored the topics while also adhering to guidelines about how to safely and appropriately communicate about suicide prevention and mental illness.

Contact the writer: laurie.editor@gmail.com

Suicide prevention video wins award for Apple Valley High students



COMMENT



Recommend

63



From left, seniors Luke Dominguez, Cory Bilodeau and Seth Bowlin from Apple Valley High School received the Outstanding Screenplay and Acting Award in the Suicide Prevention category at the Directing Change Student Film Contest with their film 'Withered Sticks and Poison.' Photo courtesy of Gretchen Peratt

By Rene Ray De La Cruz
Staff Writer

Posted May. 22, 2015 at 3:51 PM

APPLE VALLEY — A group of young local filmmakers have earned a statewide award after they pooled their talents to create a video that focuses on preventing suicide and reducing the stigma associated with mental illness.

With their film "Withered Sticks and Poison," Apple Valley High School seniors Cory Bilodeau, Seth Bowlin and Luke Dominguez recently took home the Outstanding Screenplay and Acting award in the Suicide Prevention Category at the Directing Change Student Film Contest.

"These three students combined their skills and talents to produce a video that sends a powerful message," said Gretchen Peratt, teacher of the Computer and Media Pathway class at AVHS. "Each one of them came to the table with their own set of unique gifts and skills, and the result is a message that should impact many lives. We are very proud of them and all our hard-working students."

In the 60-second video, Bowlin gives Bilodeau one of his most cherished possessions and tells her what a good friend she's been. Bowlin bids his friend goodbye and leaves in the middle of a video game they had just started.

Sensing that Bowlin may not "be safe by himself," Bilodeau calls a friend and shares her thoughts about Bowlin. As multiple public service announcement contacts appear in the video, Bilodeau calls and speaks to a representative with the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. The video ends with the words, "Know the Signs."

Each student told the Daily Press that the production of the video involved more than just writing a script, grabbing a camera and saying a few lines. It include digging deep and exploring the darkness of suicide.

"I've dealt with a friend who thought about ending their life," said Bilodeau, who plans to study biological chemistry after graduation. "As I approached my role, I was bringing in real-life experience."

Bilodeau said one of the biggest attributes of the trio was the ability to put aside personal agendas and goals for the video, allowing each member to contribute their own unique ingredient to the recipe.

Bowlin, who plans to study criminal justice in college, said he had to "delve into the mind" of one who was considering suicide in order to play his part.

"I had to play the part and not overly demonstrate that I wanted to kill myself," Bowlin said. "I think we all came together and contributed our passion to the video."

Dominguez said the video project was a success because it was a team effort, with no one taking the credit or demanding their way.

"We've been together for a long time, so there's a level of trust and respect that comes when we share our opinions and ideas," said Dominguez, who plans to pursue a career in medicine after he serves in the Navy. "When it all came together, we delivered a video that may save a life, and that's the most important thing."

Peratt said because of graduation activities, the students were not able to attend the screening event in Rancho Cucamonga on May 14 or the statewide recognition ceremony and award presentation on Tuesday in Sacramento.

Besides AVHS, students from High Desert schools also submitted videos and were recognized by the Directing Change program. Those schools included Granite Hills High School in Apple Valley, Encore Jr. /Sr. High School in Hesperia, Ironwood Christian Academy in Newberry Springs and Barstow High School.

Directing Change is part of statewide efforts to prevent suicide, reduce stigma and discrimination related to mental illness, and promote the mental health and wellness of students. The program is administered by the California Mental Health Services Authority.

To watch the video, search "Withered Sticks and Poison" on YouTube.com. For more information on Directing Change and or to watch more video submissions, visit www.directingchange.org.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline can be reached by calling 800-273-8255.

Rene Ray De La Cruz may be reached at 760-951-6227, RDeLa_Cruz@VVDailyPress.com or on Twitter @DP_ReneDeLaCruz.



Media Contact: Kristy Callaway, Executive Director kristy@artsschoolsnetwork.org
For immediate release

**Inspire School of Arts & Sciences
Receives Exemplary School Designation**

Key West, FL (May 22, 2015)...Inspire School of Arts & Sciences in Chico, CA, has been designated a 2015-2017 Exemplary School by Arts Schools Network, the nation's largest professional membership organization of specialized arts schools. Created to highlight a school's commitment to excellence, this designation is presented to an Arts Schools Network member school in recognition of its efforts to evaluate strategically its purpose, operations, and educational programs. This honor signifies that Inspire School of Arts & Sciences has successfully completed a self-evaluation in the following areas: strengths, areas for improvement, consistency with school-wide or program purposes, aspirations, and future challenges.

Conceived as a third high school for the Chico Unified School District in response to a need for a program with expanded elective possibilities, Inspire School of Arts and Sciences has come to embody the "culture of support and acceptance" its founders envisioned in the original charter. The school provides a unique balance of freedom and rigor. Students have room to explore their passions through a range of arts and engineering courses, but are also held to high expectations in both their academic and elective core classes. Students are deeply connected to the life of the school and refer to this community as a "family" where they are recognized for what they have to offer.

About Arts Schools Network

Dedicated to excellence and leadership in arts education, Arts Schools Network, a non-profit professional organization founded in 1981, is a dynamic resource for arts schools leaders, innovative partners and members of arts education institutions. Its **mission** is to provide leaders in arts schools with quality resources support, and networking opportunities. ASN has provided communications, programs, services, conferences and events to support these goals for over 30 years. Visit the website at www.artsschoolsnetwork.org to learn more.

###

MOM'S READING REWARDS INCENTIVES

**Hey Principals! Want to win that \$500 cash prize at the end of the year?
Want some fun ideas to get families to bring their bookmarks into Mom's?**

We've brainstormed some easy, low-cost ways to improve your numbers.

Hand it over to your PTO! They can provide the manpower to implement some of these ideas. You can call or email me each month and I will tell you which students have redeemed bookmarks that month. Then, hold a monthly drawing for students who qualify. Here are some fun incentives to help motivate them:

➤ Smaller incentives:



Make a schoolwide announcement (PA system, newsletter) recognizing outstanding readers

PLUS one of these:



Lunchtime Front of the Line Pass for them + one friend for one week

Special lunch with the principal or their teacher



Special cupcake or other treat at lunchtime



Free homework pass

"Balloon Pop" prize board, where students can pop a balloon to get a small prize inside.
(Fill with homework pass, line pass, extra free time, etc.)

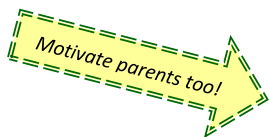


➤ Larger incentives:



Display a large "Reading Wall of Fame" in library or hallway, where students and parents can see pictures of students redeeming bookmarks on the wall.

Hold a drawing at the end of the month/trimester/semester for larger prizes:



Reserved parking spot for the month/trimester/semester/year

Principal for a day



Privileged spot - comfy chair with the sign "RESERVED for Sarah" and their photo, in the library for a whole month/trimester/semester



Movie & popcorn party to the class with the most bookmarks at the end of the year

These programs may take a little time to gain momentum, but have the potential to earn cash for your school!

Let families know that they'll get multiple entries for multiple qualifiers!



BCOE VAPA Summer Convening

Immerse Yourself in...
ARTFUL Teaching

July 29th & 30th

This summer, immerse yourself in two full days - 9am-5pm- of exciting visual art, music, dance and theatre integrated professional learning @ the BCOE Instructional Resource Center, 5 County Center Drive, Oroville, CA.

Take away arts integration lesson ideas, strategies, and resources to engage student learning across the curriculum throughout your 2015-16 school year.

Early Bird Special \$150

for paid registrations received by June 1, 2015.

Registration cost is \$175 June 2- July 15, 2015.

Registration includes all art materials, lunch, drinks, and snacks.
One unit of Continuing Education Credit available from CSUChico

Register Today! Space is limited!

<http://goo.gl/forms/qQLAIKLsrW>

Target Audience: Designed for Prek-8 general ed teachers, arts specialists, instructional aides, afterschool staff, and parents.

Presented by BCOE VAPA Coordinator, Nancy Silva and renowned California arts specialists!

Abbie Ehorn

Abbie has developed a highly successful music program at Evergreen Union School District in Cottonwood, CA. This program integrates music with grade level curriculum themes and delivers sequential, standards-based music to 1000 students each year in grades K-8. Abbie has taught music at Northeast California Arts Project (NCAP) summer institutes for ten years.

Karen Hafenstein

Karen has taught music K-12, K-1 classroom, fine arts, and algebra in Redding area schools over the years. She is the former director of NCAP. Her extensive workshops and Institutes instructed classroom teachers in learning and teaching dance, music, theatre and visual arts.

Colleen Pelfrey

Colleen has taught in the Live Oak Unified School District since 1983. She currently teaches 5th-8th grade visual and performing arts, 5th-8th grade physical education, 8th grade math, and 5th-8th grade after school drama. For over ten years, Colleen taught dance at NCAP summer institutes and at workshops for several northern California school districts.

David Tamori

Retired from teaching art at Oroville High School after 38 years - served as the VAPA Chair and Head Wrestling Coach; contributed to the state VAPA standards and developed standards and content for all of the current Art Teacher preparation assessments; taught NCAP summer institutes for 22 years; currently, working for the College Board as an Advanced Placement Studio Art workshop consultant/presenter and BCOE VAPA volunteer extraordinaire.

Brought to you by the Butte County Office of Education Visual and Performing Arts Program

Nancy Silva, VAPA Coordinator
nsilva@bcoe.org | 530-532-5812



www.bcoe.org/divisions/ess/arts_education



2015-16 Back to School Nights:

DATE	SCHOOL	START TIME
8/25/15	Marigold – K Parkview Rosedale K – 3 rd	6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.
8/26/15	Chapman - Title 1 - K – 3 rd - 4 th – 6 th Citrus Emma Wilson - Book Fair, K - TK, 1 st – 3 rd - 4 th – 5 th Hooker Oak - K- 3 rd - 4 th – 6 th Little Chico Creek - Kindergarten - 1 st – 3 rd - PTA - 4 th – 6 th John McManus - TK - K - 1 st – 6 th Marigold 1st – 6th Neal Dow - 6 th Gr. Camp meeting - 4 th – 6 th - K – 3 rd Shasta Sierra View - K - 1 st – 3 rd - 4 th – 6 th	5:45 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:45 p.m.
8/27/15	Bidwell JHS – gym Chico JHS - gym Marsh JHS – gym	6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.
8/27/14	Marigold – K	
9/1/15	Rosedale 4 th – 6 th	6:30 p.m.
9/3/15	Chico HS Pleasant Valley HS	6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.
9/10/15	Inspire School of Arts & Sciences	6:00 p.m.

*** TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE ***

CHICO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Contact: Bob Feaster, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources
891-3000, ext. 142



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

June 3, 2015

CUSD announced that starting on Monday, June 15, 2015, the Chico Unified School District Office at 1163 East Seventh Street will be open Monday-Thursday **only** from 8:00am to 4:30pm and closed on Fridays. The District office will return to a Monday-Friday schedule starting the week of Monday, July 27, 2015.

Any questions regarding this schedule should be directed to Bob Feaster, Assistant Superintendent at the number above.