



The Superintendent's Update

January 26, 2016



News from Kelly

LCAP Student Input Meetings: I have been fortunate to spend the last several weeks meeting with students to discuss quality education from the student perspective. Not a surprise to anyone, students overwhelmingly stated that teachers made the single most significant impact on their learning. Students shared that when they have teachers that care about them, they learn - and went on to share that during their time in CUSD, the vast majority of their teachers were caring, engaging, and had high academic standards. I heard many examples of teachers that check in daily with students they know are struggling, whether it be academically, socially or emotionally. I heard about creative approaches that teachers utilize to keep students engaged ranging from learning games and creative use of technology to field trips and simulations. I also heard from students who had attended schools outside of Chico... and how they felt so much more a part of their classroom and school in Chico schools as a result of the caring adults at their schools. There were some reoccurring themes for areas of improvement. These included some expected responses including longer lunch/recess, better food and "nicer" facilities. In response to how to improve academic learning in the classroom, two main themes emerged: increased student engagement (although their wording was more along the lines of "get us involved and show us you care") and increased use of technology. I will be posting all of the student responses on the CUSD LCAP Webpage and encourage you to take a look. It is clear in looking at their responses that we are making positive strides in creating critical thinkers who can express their thoughts clearly.

PVHS "We Not Me" Event: Pleasant Valley High School Staff and students took part in a "We Not Me" event today. The event featured PVHS Special Needs students participating in basketball events, including tunnel running introductions, dribbling contests, shooting contests, and slam dunk contests. The hour concluded with both a four on four wheelchair basketball game and an exciting exhibition game between several sharp shooting special needs students and the PVHS basketball team. Not only were the basketball teams thoroughly involved, but the band and cheerleaders were present, loud and proud as well. The District Office and Corp Yard were invited to attend and there was more than one set of eyes filled with tears of pride for our students and staff. Comments from adults in attendance included, *"I walked away with a 'full heart' and 'As I sat in the stands I looked around and saw the sincerity and generous spirit of your students... a culture that only a wonderful and dedicated staff can build."* Huge kudos to **Mr. Shepherd, Mr. Whittaker, Mr. Haley, Mr. Carr, Coach Keating** and all the many others who helped make this event happen. I could not help but think this is exactly what our students are talking about when they say they know the staff at their school cares.



Chico Area Teachers Recognized by the California League of Schools: Twelve north state teachers were nominated to represent our region by the California League of Schools, a state-wide non-profit organization dedicated to helping educators improve student learning through professional development opportunities and other events. This is a highly esteemed honor, and it is noteworthy that eight Chico area teachers—four from CUSD—were chosen this year. Each teacher was nominated for their service, dedication, and commitment that extended beyond their typical job duties. Many donated their time before and after school and during their lunch periods to serve their students, schools, and communities. Following is a list of the local nominees:

- **Mary Ann Pella-Donnelly**, Chico Junior High
- **Annalisa Hansen**, Bidwell Junior High
- **Cindy Cox**, Chico High School
- **Becky Brown**, Inspire School of the Arts and Sciences
- Kelly Clarke, Chico Country Day Charter School
- Debra Moon, CORE Butte Charter
- Donna Gilbertson, CORE Butte Charter
- Karla Rigsbee, Durham Intermediate School

On January 22, Bidwell Jr. High School Teacher **Annalisa Hansen** was selected to represent our region and will subsequently be honored at the CLMS Annual Conference in Sacramento on February 26-29, where one of the regional nominees will be announced as CLMS Middle Level Educator of the Year. Congratulations to all four CUSD regional award recipients and best wishes as Annalisa moves on to the state level as the regional nominee.

On December 5, 2015, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. announced several appointments (see: <http://www.imperialvalleynews.com/index.php/news/california-news/6625-governor-brown-announces-appointments-12-4-15.html>): Congratulations to Marysol de la Torre-Escobedo, who has been appointed to the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing. De la Torre-Escobedo has been a teacher for the Chico Unified School District since 2007. She earned a Master of Arts degree in education and teaching from Stanford University. This position requires Senate confirmation and there is no compensation. De la Torre-Escobedo is a Democrat.

Superintendent Awards for December 2015:



Daryl Bender, Sierra View Teacher, presented by Sierra View Principal **Mele Benz**



Diane Kennedy, presented by Principal **Mark Beebe** and VP **Reg Govan**

Superintendent Awards for January 2016:



Dusty Copper, Supervisor, presented by **John Carver**, Director, M&O, and **Kevin Bultema**, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services



Ronnie Cockrell, Chico High School Welding teacher, presented by Principal **Mark Beebe** and Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources, **Jim Hanlon**

Golden Apple Leader for January:



Ted Sullivan, Director of Elementary Education

News from Educational Services

Educator Effectiveness Funds: The 2015-16 State Budget includes onetime funding for paraprofessional, teacher and administrator professional development and network management training. Chico Unified School District expects to receive approximately \$951,688 which must be spent by June 30, 2018, and can be used for the following purposes:

1. Beginning teacher and administrator support and mentoring, including programs that support new teacher, paraprofessional, and administrator ability to teach or lead effectively and to meet induction requirements adopted by the Commission on teacher Credentialing.
2. Professional development, coaching, and support services for teachers who have been identified as needing improvement or additional support.
3. Professional development for teachers, paraprofessionals, and administrators that is aligned to state-adopted content standards.
4. To promote educator quality and effectiveness that may include training on mentoring and coaching certificated staff to support effective teaching and learning.

Of those factors over which schools have some degree of control, highly effective teaching is the most powerful in influencing learning. These funds are dedicated to improving and refining educational practices used by teachers, paraprofessionals and administrators. Sites will be hearing more about these funds from their Chico Unified District Leadership Council Representatives who will solicit staff input regarding professional development topics.

The Secondary District Leadership Council (DLC) is focused on LCAP Goal 3: ensuring high levels of success for all students in all subgroups in a wide variety of courses. In other words, ensuring equal access to college, career, and citizenship-readiness skills teachers know kids need to master in order to get ahead to a better life. To that end, the secondary DLC worked on three main objectives during the first semester: (1) Ensuring timely communication between school sites and the district office regarding student learning; (2) Soliciting teacher input in developing staff development sessions; and (3) Developing an ELA and Math district-wide assessment plan that provides teachers with meaningful, useful data about student learning.

Teacher representatives from each secondary site met for a full day in early November, along with site and district administrators. The ELA team met on November 6 and the Math team on

November 9. The objective for the day was to draft district-level benchmark assessments that would provide meaningful, useful data about student learning to teachers, as well as site and district administrators. Both ELA and Math teams achieved their objectives and are currently vetting the drafts with their colleagues for additional feedback. Teams will meet as part of the February 9 Professional Development Day to finalize the assessments and pilot them in early March. Teachers will meet in the March/April timeframe to analyze the students' responses and draw instructional inferences. These assessments will be administered in the October/November time frame during the 2016-17 school year. Assessment teams will meet again to draft the spring 2017 assessments.

The secondary DLC meets weekly. You can find all meeting notes and related information on the DLC website, which can be found in the Staff Room. TK-12 DLC Reps plan to meet during the second semester to refine our TK-12 ELA, Math, and Educational Technology sequences.

Sixth Grade Move Update: Preparation for moving Chico Unified's sixth grade program to the junior high schools continues across the district. It is easy to see progress being made in the form of the many completed facility improvements at Bidwell Junior High School and the new buildings being constructed at both Marsh and Chico Junior High Schools.

Many other planning steps are taking place as well. The first step to creating the staff for each junior high took place recently with 18 teachers currently at elementary schools volunteering for and being chosen to be the teachers of the core subjects (math, English, history and science). Each junior high welcomed six teachers to their sites. Teachers are listed with the names of their current school in parenthesis. More information about these teachers will appear on the junior high web sites soon.

Bidwell Junior: **Caty Harris** (Parkview), **Monte Hill** (Shasta), **Dan Linville** (Little Chico Creek), **Charles Snyder** (Marigold), **Darcy Weagant** (Shasta) and **Janelle Wolfsberger** (Marigold).

Chico Junior: **Don Collins** (Rosedale), **Kristen Del Real** (Hooker Oak), **Adan Mota** (Rosedale), **Grant Oliver** (Marigold), **Melanie Perrin** (Emma Wilson) and **Roy Tadeo** (Rosedale).

Marsh Junior: **Greg Bishop** (Sierra View), **Nick Bonacich** (Neal Dow), **Angie Brunemeyer** (Chapman), **Deidra Cross** (Parkview), **Amy Shockley** (Emma Wilson) and **Ryan Willard** (Emma Wilson).

The Hour of Code takes place worldwide each year during [Computer Science Education Week](#). Computer Science Education Week was December 7-13, 2015; however, teachers can utilize Hour of Code activities throughout the year in their classroom or as an extracurricular activity or club. *Every* student should have the opportunity to learn computer science. It helps nurture problem-solving skills, logic and creativity. By starting early, students will have a foundation for success in any 21st-century career path. Chico Unified has a plethora of computer science activities taking place on all sites.



Following are a few examples of what has taken place over the last few weeks starting with several Hour of Code activities:

- **Parkview:** K-6th grade students participated in the Hour of Code which can be viewed on their Twitter Feed on the Parkview webpage or on the Twitter account @ #ParkviewStem. Students worked on Chromebooks learning coding through the program Lightbot. Others used the coding programs that feature Star Wars or Minecraft on the hour of code website.
- **Chapman:** K-6th grade students participated in coding activities during the school day and additionally offered a Saturday School on December 12 with coding for K-6th graders as one option for the day.
- **Hooker Oak:** 6th graders kicked off Computer Science Week by watching Youtube videos introducing the Hour of Code and promoting computer science. The students were enthusiastic as they viewed famous people promoting coding and the Hour of Code! A quick tutorial on coding with the students setting up their class account started off their Hour of Code on Code.org. experience. All loved it and were in their element! This experience lead into discussions about the importance and role of computer science in the classroom and in their future. It led to a guest speaker coming in with his co-founder of a software start-up to speak with the students about coding and computer science. They brought in some of their virtual reality equipment and allowed the students to experience virtual reality for the first time! Students received their certificate of completion for their Hour of Code. Interests regarding computer science was definitely sparked including a comment from a 6th grader at the end of the week... "*I have never been so sad to leave school!*"
- **Shasta:** Numerous activities took place that revolved around coding and generated a lot of interest. As a result, the school is exploring offering a *Coding Club* that will meet weekly to practice coding and offer time for students to share their progress. Among other classes, **Mrs. Granicher's** class participated in the Hour of Code in their 5th grade class and later worked with their 2nd grade buddies on coding activities. All in all, the Shasta students are moving along with their tech skills.
- **LCC:** A coding class was offered at Saturday School with 28 students, 3rd-6th grade, participating. During daily class time students accessed the Star Wars coding, plus some individuals explored coding on JAVA. Students were asked to write about their coding experience. The following are a few thoughts expressed by 6th graders:
 - *Before coming to class today, I didn't consider coding to be a "fun" activity. I had never tried it before, but I am afraid that my occasional close-mindedness got the better of me. I was hesitant to try different kinds of coding, because I feel I did not truly understand what it meant. Coding did not interest me in the slightest.*
 - *My opinion about coding changed drastically after finishing the Hour of Code. I really enjoyed the compelling activities. I also learned that I should always be willing to try something new, because my past experience definitely proved my original opinion to be incorrect. Coding is fun, and I've actually developed a knack for it.*
 - *Some skills I practiced were organizing, ordering, counting, and logic. My organizing, ordering, logic, and counting skills could be used for math, when dealing with operations, complex word problems, and more. It could also be used for real-world situations. For example, trying my best to be financially stable, etc.*
 - *These skills are important, because they can help you go to college, organize number lines and such in math, keep you financially stable, and even help you develop new skills in order to help you get a job!*

- *The best part of participating in the Hour of Code was I developed a new skill! I had never tried coding before, but I got to give it a go and even ended up thoroughly enjoying it. I learned a substantial amount about computer science, animation design (such as animated monsters in a film or games) and more. I didn't realize how vital coding was, and I'm glad to have participated in the Hour of Code."*
- **Neal Dow:** Throughout the December week 200 students participated in the Hour of Code. Students helped “code” Steve and Alex from Minecraft to safety by navigating the digital world using computer programming. This gave the students a glimpse into the inner workings of what makes an application run, some even proclaimed that they wanted to use their “super powers” to better control the computers. The 6th graders participated by engaging in the Star Wars Hour of Code tutorial. During the normal school weeks they had the opportunity to use Code.org’s “Code Studio” for about 30 minutes per week to develop their Computer Science Fundamentals which allowed some of the students to take further steps into coding, away from the simple drag-and-drop methods, and into actually typing the commands and following the specific java code syntax which puts our students a step above even most high school students in understanding the how-and-why of computer science. Overall Neal Dow students are building a better understanding of the basics of logical computer programming and hopefully it illuminated a pathway to a career in computer science thanks to this early exposure to the “wonderful world” of coding.
- **Marigold:** Check out Marigold’s Facebook page posts for examples of coding activities taking place on their site. Students were leading students as they explored the vast world of coding. Older students partnered with their younger “buddies” to support them as they began to learn how to code.

Girls Who Code: A new and exciting offering for CUSD girls is the new **Girls Who Code** club which offers **free** computer science education to 6th-12th grade girls. Girls meet weekly and learn to make apps, games, and web sites. Local business, **Build.com**, has teamed up with Girls Who Code, Chico High School, and CUSD to offer a local Girls Who Code club to all Chico area girls. The weekly program offers a basic foundation in computer science to 6th-12th grade girls. As a company which relies heavily on software developers and is also very involved in our community, the team at Build.com recognizes the lack of female software developers in our industry and feels passionately about encouraging more women to get involved in computer science. The 20-week program will meet for two hours on Wednesday afternoons beginning in January 2016 and will teach students how to make apps, games and websites using common software development programs and languages. Students commit to one semester but are encouraged to return for a 2nd and 3rd semester of the program, where they will take on leadership roles and more advanced projects. Club members also have exclusive access to jobs and internships at tech companies such as Facebook, Pinterest, and Build.com as members and alumni of a Girls Who Code club.

Introducing i-Ready: Utilizing Federal Title I funds, Chico Unified has purchased i-Ready online Language Arts and Math for six Title I elementary schools (it is also currently utilized at non-Title I school Sierra View). The i-Ready program is an on-line platform that requires students to take a diagnostic test to determine which standards they have mastered and which standards they need support to learn. The program then designs an individual on-line program for each student to work on the Language Arts and Math with the biggest area of need. The program also provides teachers with sample lesson plans based on areas of need for individual student and groups of students in their classes to support differentiated instruction.

The staff at Chapman and Emma Wilson attended a three-hour training for the program at their school sites on Tuesday, January 12. Training took place at McManus, Parkview and Rosedale

on Tuesday, January 19. Citrus will have training on Tuesday, January 26. Evidence suggests that students see significant gains in ELA and Math achievement when utilizing i-Ready 45 minutes per week for each subject.

CTE Incentive Grant: Chico Unified is applying for the Career Technical Education Incentive grant. The deadline to apply was Tuesday, January 19. If Chico's application is approved, the grant should supply the district with \$818,673 to support CTE programs at its high schools and junior high schools for the remainder of this school year and all of next school year. The district can also apply for more CTEIG funding in two future years. These funds will likely be used to support program staffing in the face of funding changes in ROP. The funds can also be used to acquire supplies and materials needed to successfully support students in the CTE programs.

Current pathways supported in Chico Unified schools include: Agriculture Mechanics, Animal Science, Architectural Design, Engineering Design, Design, Visual and Media Arts, Information and Communication Technology, Health Science Patient Care, Welding and Materials Joining, Child Development, Family and Human Services, Fashion Design and Merchandising, Food Service and Technology and Biotechnology.

Training: The Special Education and Student Services Department teamed up with Classified Human Resources to provide trainings for paraprofessional aides, bus drivers, and support staff throughout the district. The professional development trainings were held on student free days: November 6 for elementary paraprofessionals, December 18 for secondary paraprofessional aides, and January 12 for the Transportation Department. Well over 160 staff members participated in these trainings. The focus topic was entitled "Working with Students with Challenging Behaviors". The presenter Josh Kuersten has an extensive background in special education and behavior management. The training was the first of a series of professional development opportunities which will be offered to paraprofessionals, transportation staff, and other district staff starting in the fall 2016. The feedback from staff was very positive. Future topics may include: Nurtured Heart, trauma/anxiety, instructional accommodations supporting general education, and social skills training.

Sixth Grade Transition: Planning is ongoing with respect to the sixth grade transition process for special education, too. The Special Education Director is working closely with site administrators and special education teachers while planning for moving sixth grade students to the junior high school for the 2016-17 school year - it is a busy time identifying needs specific to facilities, staffing, and caseloads. The sixth grade transition will impact all special education programs and services including resource programs, mild moderate and moderate/severe special day class programs. In addition, administrators are reviewing the impact on the elementary special education programs. There is much work to do this spring and information will be shared with teachers, administrators, and parents as plans are confirmed.

Technology at the Elementary Schools. There are many technology upgrades and learning opportunities happening at the elementary schools:

- Nearly 1,000 Chromebooks are being added for student use
- 240 iPad minis are being added as well. We are rapidly moving closer to our goal of 1:1 access - meaning each student has access to a computer device whenever they are at school
- Several schools are receiving a significant infrastructure upgrade that will allow them much smoother access to Wi-Fi
- There are 15 after school professional development sessions scheduled during January. These professional development opportunities are focusing on Google forms, Google apps, Google slides, YouTube classroom uses, and more

- All schools participated in the “Hour of Code” opportunity
- Half of the elementary schools received training on the IReady program (an on-line student academic support program) and will begin use within the coming weeks



tech team 1.wmv

Teacher Recognition of Rosedale’s Ms. Hernandez: Please click on the file to the left to see the wonderful tech team presentation that aired on the Rosedale TV on November 13

New Ricoh Copiers Coming this Month: Old Canon copiers are being removed and brand new Ricoh copiers delivered to all sites. To assist with this transition both a Ray Morgan trainer and an IT Department representative were on site when the copiers were delivered.

CRITICAL Chromebook Procedure – Sign Out or Power Off Before You Close the Lid: Many programs, including iReady, use your Google Account to logon. Both you and your students **MUST** sign-out or power-off your Chromebook before you close the lid or others could gain access to your data.

- Sign out – Click the icon in the bottom right corner of the screen and select Sign Out
- Power Off – Hold the power button until the Chromebook turns off
- To temporarily Lock your Chromebook – Shift + Control + L

New Immunization Requirements for 2016: Under a new law known as SB 277, beginning January 1, 2016 exemptions based on personal beliefs will no longer be an option for the vaccines that are currently required for entry into child care or school in California. Most families will not be affected by the new law because their children have received all required vaccinations. Personal beliefs exemptions on file for a child already attending child care or school will remain valid until the child reaches the next immunization checkpoint at kindergarten (including transitional kindergarten) or 7th grade. For more information about school immunization requirements and resources, please visit the California Department of Public Health’s website at www.shotsforschool.org, or contact your [local health department](#).

Health Assistants of the Month: **Karen Stornetta** was December Health Assistant of the Month. Karen has worked at Chico Unified for 29 years and is currently the Health Assistant at Bidwell Junior High School. **Anne Bartlett** is January Health Assistant of the Month. Anne has worked at Chico Unified for 14 years and is currently the Health Assistant at Citrus Elementary.

News from Business Services

Facilities:

- **Boys’ Locker Rooms Renovation Project:** Over Winter Recess, the boys’ locker rooms at Pleasant Valley and Chico High were gutted and prepped as part of the renovation plan. Maintenance and Operations staff worked during the break to remove all the old lockers, prep and patch walls and paint the interior of the locker rooms. PVHS boys’ locker room also received a new electrical panel to accommodate the new LED lighting equipment. Chico High and Pleasant Valley boys’ locker rooms will also get new epoxy flooring and new lockers. This project is expected to be completed the last week of January.
- **Chico Junior High New Science Building and Modernization:** Great progress has been made at the new Science Building! The majority of underground utilities and framing are now complete and the first two sets of restroom modernization are underway. As part of the modernization plan, the old science classrooms will be renovated. Chico Jr. Science

Teachers and Staff are preparing to relocate their classrooms over Spring Recess. The old classrooms and nearby restrooms will be completely upgraded to modern standards.



- **Marsh Jr. High Multipurpose Building:** We are past the halfway point of completion for the new Multipurpose Building at Marsh! Construction crews are currently working on making the building weather tight. All interior walls have been framed with metal studs. In the next month, we will observe completion of roofing, stucco and windows and glazing.



- **Marsh Jr. New Science Building:** The rain has not stopped the construction momentum of the new Science Building at Marsh. All site utilities have been installed. The framing is almost complete and interior rough in of electrical, mechanical, fire sprinkler and plumbing scopes are underway.



The Maintenance & Operations team hopes your Winter Break went well. M&O thought it would be a good time to remind everyone of some safety tips:

- ❖ Be aware of your surroundings. This includes inclement weather conditions.
- ❖ Report hazardous conditions to your site office.
- ❖ All employees should wear an identification badge.
- ❖ All visitors should check-in and have a Visitors Badge
- ❖ Emergency Response Plan must be posted in each room.

El Nino has finally arrived and M&O is busy inspecting roofs and making repairs to help keep classrooms dry. If you see a leak, please report it to your office. They will report it through the work order system. Thanks for being our “eyes” on campus!

Toys for Needy Children: CUSD worked with the Salvation Army in December to help provide toys to needy children. Every school had a barrel placed at their site and each was filled with toys. People from the Transportation Department collected these barrels and helped to deliver to the Salvation Army. A special thanks goes to every single person who contributed and to the people in Transportation who go out of their way each year to help with this worthy cause.



BSSP News: The Oroville Health and Wellness Center held a ribbon cutting and open house on January 21. Please see the attachment at the end of this update.

Nutrition Services: Nutrition Services is in the final stage of equipment purchases from their 2015 breakfast and summer feeding grant. They have purchased ten new hot holding cabinets for the sites; two new convection ovens and a six top burner stove, a new dough rounder all for the bakery; a new 16 foot by 32 foot walk in refrigerator and four new double convection ovens for the sites. They still have some small wares to purchase through the grant funds. This grant was to help expand breakfast and summer feeding meals. With the first round of grant money they did see an increase in summer meals. They increased by 4,000 meals over the prior year. This year they have seen an increase in breakfast participation at the sites. They are on track to serve 7,000 more breakfasts over the 2014-15 school year.

Nutrition is also in full swing with our continuing education program that was mandated by the USDA on July 1, 2015. The new mandate requires each team member to have continuing education hours in their field. We have offered training classes each month since the start of school this year. One of our most interesting was fire extinguisher training. The training involved putting out fires with extinguishers and it was a lot of fun for everyone.

We are excited to kick off the spring BBQ events at each school. We will have the BBQ calendar out at the end of February so keep an eye out and come join us for lunch.

News from Human Resources

Certificated Human Resources: The CUTA and CUSD Negotiations teams met on November 12, December 3 and 10, and January 14 and 21, 2016, after completing a workshop in Interest Based Bargaining (IBB) in October 2015. The IBB process has worked extremely well and agreements have been reached in the following areas: 1) 6th grade transition to Junior High School in Fall 2016; 2) 6/5's compensation for SDC/SH teachers who were not receiving a prep period due to their teaching assignment; 3) All-day Kindergarten work day; 4) Pay rate for Special Education Summer School; 5) Adding a CTSO Stipend; 6) Reduction from ½ to ¼ day deduction for missed called meeting time; and 7) Use of Absence Reporting Calendars for all certificated staff.

Both sides have reached agreement on Nurses/Speech Therapists Placement on the Salary Schedule and are awaiting final approval by the respective boards. Additionally, we are working on several other areas (Caseload for Elementary Prep Providers, Elementary Supervision language and Independent Study/Online Teacher Caseloads) and expect to reach agreement at our January 14 meeting. Overall the IBB process has been extremely productive and positive. Negotiations for the 2016-17 school year begin on February 3, 2016.

Visits to China: Over the course of four to five years CUSD has been building a sister school relationship with schools in China. Over 120 Chinese students have come to school here along with dozens of Chinese teachers visiting and learning how American classrooms work. In July 2015 Assistant Superintendent **Jim Hanlon**, CHS Principal **Mark Beebe**, and MJHS Principal **Jay Marchant** traveled to Beijing, China along with Teachers **Anita Homesley** (CHS), **Caitlin Dolby** (MJHS), **Chase Redkey** (CJHS), and **Esther Wright** (CHS) who went to Beijing, China over the summer to teach teachers and students for several weeks.



Jim Hanlon with Students



School in So. China



American Teacher in Class



The Great Wall... with Snow

News from Our Schools

Purses for Primates: Recently PVHS was notified by Viacom and the network's flagship channel Nickelodeon of their intent to air a show high-lighting the efforts of **Allie Boyer** and her "Purses for Primates" project. Allie, a current senior at PVHS, has developed an annual fund-raising effort through the donation and re-selling of purses and handbags to support conservation efforts of various species of primates around the world. Her efforts have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars, and Nickelodeon has decided to document her most recent fund-raising effort and celebrate her wonderful philanthropy! During the week of February 8-14 the network will be capturing one of Allie's presentations, with live participants from PVHS, and documenting her effort to form a new club, raise donations, and publicize her cause. The PV House of Blue and International Baccalaureate Theater students will play minor roles in the documentary, acquiring real-life understanding of the film industry. The final cut is tentatively scheduled to air in early summer. If you have any time stop by and join the cast!

CHS Receives a Gold Football: **Mike Sherrard**, a star wide receiver and an NFL Super Bowl winner visited his old stomping grounds, Chico High, this morning during a rally as part of an initiative to honor the NFL's 50th anniversary Super Bowl celebration. As part of the celebration, every high school that produced a player or coach on a Super Bowl roster will be recognized with a gold football. Today it was Sherrard's turn to hand-off the gold football and he also delivered an inspiring message to the student body: "If you have dreams for yourself work hard for them. There's no reason they can't happen so I want kids to know that I was just like them, I was at Chico High in the stands and I had dreams, but I went after it and I got it."



Updates on CHS Career Technical Education Engineering Graduates: Representatives from Chico High recently visited CHS graduates that are now working in North Carolina. The

young man pictured next to CHS Engineering Teacher Mike Bruggeman by the race car pictures is **Dillon Silverman**, a 23 year old CHS Engineering grad. He mentored for **Tim Dexter** at Westside Research his senior year at Chico High. Dillon took his class resume, job application and website to North Carolina and was hired by **Tony Stewart** Racing at 19 years old. He is now working on all aspects of engineering development for the team. The steering wheel he is holding has his actual knock off design on it. Dillon is attending UNC, Charlotte to obtain his degree in mathematics and engineering. He wants to be a lead engineer for his own team someday and has already had offers.

Matt Golloway, the Architect for Sierra Nevada Brewery, has worked with CHS students for five years now. Matt arranged for the CHS Group to have a VIP tour of the new Brewery in Ashville, North Carolina. The architecture, engineering, as well as their product, is most impressive per Mr. Bruggeman. Known as "Malt Disney" in the craft beer world, the design of the facility is a world attraction, literally! Per Bruggeman, the facility is a must see if you are traveling on the East Coast.



CMEA Junior High Honor Band: The following students have auditioned for and have been accepted into the CMEA Junior High Honor Band held at Chico State.

Isaac Schwein	Percussion	Chico Junior
Drew Snider	French Horn	Chico Junior
Ben Katz	Percussion	Chico High
Rose Johnson	Trombone	Chico High
Christian Harrington	Trombone	Chico High

Also, three additional students have been selected to be in the Northern California Band and Choral Directors Association Honor band. They will be travelling to Humboldt State in mid-February. They are:

Anna Conley	French Horn	Chico High
Kobe Hassenzahl	Tuba	Chico High
Bjorn Larsen	Trumpet	Chico High

These students are very deserving and have done an outstanding job! - **Todd Filpula**, Band Director, Chico High/Chico Jr., President, CMEA-ns

Bidwell Jr. High School Moves 'Full STEAM Ahead': Bidwell Jr. High School teachers **Bill Battaglia**, **Judy Hass**, **Carie Myers** and **Hollis Enserro** are visiting Bidwell's elementary feeder schools' 5th and 6th grade classes during the month of January. The purpose of these visits is to get incoming students excited about their Jr. High experience. These teachers have created a presentation that introduces students to the concepts of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) and the 'Engineering Design Model.' Students

participate in an Engineering challenge and are encouraged to complete a STEAM home challenge to share at the January 26, Parent STEAM night being hosted by Bidwell teachers.



Parkview Students Perform with International Orchestra: The Parkview Elementary Ukulele Ensemble played with the Wellington International Ukulele Orchestra who also donated the 30 ukuleles the students now play. In addition, some of the students were on TV with Linda Watkins Bennett and were on NSPR 91.7



Hooker Oak Students Celebrate Martin Luther King



Reading Pals, Book & Blanket Night! Erica Sheridan, Chapman Elementary Principal gave a shout out and huge thank you to Gina Osak, who arranged the school's first Book & Blanket night! There was a great attendance with at least 50 students, their siblings, and parents! It was a great time for all and everyone took home a book compliments of the Reading Pals program.

Hooker Oak Fifth-Graders Help Chico Woman Celebrate 108th Birthday: Students from Beth Geise's fifth-grade class at Hooker Oak School dressed in period-specific costumes as they talk about history during the decades of Florence Montrond's life to help her celebrate her 108th birthday, at Amber Grove Place in Chico. See the following articles:

<http://www.actionnewsnow.com/news/woman-celebrates-108th-birthday-with-favorite-group-of-students/>

<http://www.chicoer.com/general-news/20160114/fifth-graders-help-chico-woman-celebrate-108th-birthday>

<http://media.chicoer.com/2016/01/14/photos-florence-montrond-of-chico-calif-108th-birthday/>
<http://m.krctrv.com/chico-woman-turns-108-gets-surprise-gift-from-students/37445932>

News from Our Community

Arts for All Mini Grant Applications: To date, 134 grants have been awarded ranging from under \$100 to \$300! Please send your applications to Kim Kurnizki @: kurnizki@sbcglobal.net. (See attachments at the end of this Update.)

Arts for All Showcase: Experience the fabulous talents of Chico's youth at the 6th annual district-wide Arts for All Showcase on February 9, 2016, featuring: fine arts gallery of student artwork, dance, choir, band and theater performances, a free raffle and silent auction. This event benefits Arts Education for all CUSD students!

Buddy Bench Ceremony: The Active 20/30 Club #100 will be installing Buddy Benches at Sierra View, Parkview, Citrus, McManus and Marigold Elementary Schools! A dedication ceremony was held on January 23 at 2:00 p.m. at Parkview Elementary. The Club was very excited about this event as it was their Annual Mid-Term and there were many other 20/30 club representatives joining them for this experience.

CUSD in the News

[Chico school board votes to move forward with multi-million dollar bond measure](#)

[Current exhibits closing at **Chico** Museum](#)

[Governor Brown Announces Appointments](#)

[Editorial: **Chico** council takes fee hikes to the extreme](#)

[Chico school board meetings to move from City Council Chambers after fee hike](#)

[Letter: City's rent increase could be a blessing for **CUSD**](#)

[School district upgrades surveillance system](#)

[Chico school board finalizes decision to move meetings from City Council Chambers after fee hike](#)

[Small package, big gift](#)

[Uneasy street](#)

[School board discusses improvements to high school fields](#)

BSSP's Health and Wellness Center



The Oroville HWC
is now open!
Ribbon cutting
and open house
Jan 21 @ 4-6PM

Achieve A Healthier Tomorrow

Curious about your future health? We can talk to you about your current risks, how they can affect **your future** and then discuss ways to reduce it.

Urgent Care Services Available

Walk-in appointments are not available but a number of **same-day sick appointments** are reserved each day for your urgent care needs.

Reduce your Medical Costs

Alder and Birch: All services at the Health and Wellness Center are at no additional cost. Medications dispensed on site are \$4 or \$8.

Cedar and Dogwood: In compliance with IRS regulations, non-preventive visits are \$25. Medications dispensed at the time of your visit are at no additional cost.

On Site Dispensary and Lab Services

The HWC stocks a variety of maintenance and acute medications for **dispensing at the time of your visit**. **Most lab tests can also be drawn**, including those requested by outside providers.

Hours and Locations



BUTTE SCHOOLS
HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTER

	Oroville	Chico
	1876 Bird Street 530-532-5918	500 Cohasset #24 530-879-7582
Monday:	7 AM – 4 PM	8 AM – 7 PM
Tuesday:	7 AM – 4 PM	6 AM – 7 PM
Wednesday:	9 AM – 6 PM	7 AM – 7 PM
Thursday:	9 AM – 6 PM	7 AM – 7 PM
Friday:	Closed	7 AM – 5 PM
Saturday:	Closed	9 AM – 1 PM

GENERAL INFORMATION

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

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

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

WHO CAN APPLY FOR A MINI-GRANT?

Any teacher in CUSD.

FOR WHAT CAN MINI-GRANT FUNDS BE USED?

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

HOW MUCH MONEY IS AVAILABLE FOR A MINI-GRANT?

Mini-Grants will be offered each semester for projects, which can be completed during that semester, based upon available funds. Funding of this nature is competitive since there is a limited amount of funding available at any time. In the future, we hope to have greater funds available, but for this current round of funding please keep requests **to \$250.00 or less.**

HOW TO APPLY FOR A MINI-GRANT?

1. Fill out an application (see below).
2. **Submit completed application ELECTRONICALLY by January 29st, 2016 for Spring 2016.**
3. Arts for All Board Members read and rank the applications and make recommendations to the full Arts for All Booster group the month following the submission deadline.
4. Applicants are notified, in writing, by the Board of the status of their application the month following the submission deadline.
5. The recipient must give a report (either written or verbal) within one month following the granting of the award to the Arts for All Board outlining your progress.
6. Funding will come from the Arts for All North Valley Community Foundation account as a check payable either to the grant recipient, to third-party vendor(s), or as reimbursement with original receipts submitted with approval by the Arts for All board to NVCF/Arts for All.

APPLICANT
NAME:

NAME AND
ADDRESS OF
SCHOOL SITE:

WORK PHONE:

PERSONAL
PHONE:

EMAIL:

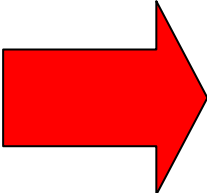
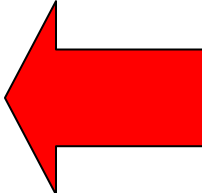
DATE:

Project Proposal

<p>1. As briefly as possible, describe your plan or project idea. <i>How many students will directly benefit? How will your project benefit your students' arts education and the arts? What will you do? Where? With whom? When? And why?</i></p>	
<p>2. Describe the specific need or issue that your project will address. <i>Please include a list of those who will benefit from this project.</i></p>	<p><i>The current situation is this:</i></p>
<p>3. What specific changes or outcomes do you intend to achieve as a result of your project?</p>	<p><i>We intend to achieve the following specific outcomes:</i></p>
<p>4. What are the major steps you will need to take to make your project happen? <i>Please include a timeline...</i></p>	

Continued on next page.

<p>5. What resources will you need to accomplish these steps? Please submit a budget with 1–2 sentence narrative describing rationale behind your cost estimates. <i>People, equipment, materials, training, supplies, services, etc.</i></p>	
<p>6. Approximate total cost: Funding from other sources: Grant size requested:</p>	<p>\$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____</p>
<p>7. Who else in the community has a vested interest in working with you as partners on this project?</p>	
<p>8. What information, tools, data, etc. will you use to decide whether your project succeeded?</p>	
<p>9. Is there an opportunity with your project to generate recognition and membership in Arts for All? If so, how?</p>	
<p>10. Any other comments or considerations to support your project?</p>	


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


REMINDER:

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

Arts for All

A collective voice for Arts in the Chico Unified School District

proudly presents our 6th annual

performing and fine arts

Showcase

A DISTRICT-WIDE CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS



FINE ART | CHOIR | BAND | DANCE | THEATER

Tuesday, February 9th, 2016

FREE!

6:00 PM: GALLERY + AUCTION

TICKETS \$10

7:00 PM: PROGRAM + RAFFLE

CUSD CENTER FOR THE ARTS

LOCATED ON THE PVHS CAMPUS • 1475 EAST AVENUE, CHICO

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT MUSIC CONNECTION, CHS, PVHS, INSPIRE SCHOOL OF THE ARTS, AND AT THE DOOR.
FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT KIM KURNIZKI AT 343-1462 OR E-MAIL ARTSFORALLCUSD@GMAIL.COM.

Arts for All is a component fund of the North Valley Community Foundation • www.nvcf.org