



The Superintendent's Update

January 16, 2009

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY: MONDAY, JANUARY 19

"The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education." --*Martin Luther King Jr.*

Martin Luther King, Jr.

"I Have a Dream"

delivered 28 August 1963, at the Lincoln Memorial, Washington D.C.



<http://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/mlkihavedream.htm>

NEWS FROM EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Secondary Math Textbook Task Force: The Secondary Math Textbook Task Force met on January 15 to continue their work on preparing a recommendation for new Mathematics textbooks for grades 7-12. Thanks to [Cris Seid](#), [Kim Battaglia](#), [Brian Horne](#), [Rahlna Rollins](#), [Dan Sours](#), [Marjorie Kucich](#), [Julia Smith](#), [Debbie Rosenow](#), [Beth Johnson](#) and [Corrine LaFollette](#) for their ongoing valuable work.

Eleventh Grade Writing Assessment: A follow-up district assessment of student writing was given to eleventh grade students in English classes during the week of January 12-16. The essays will be scored on January 22 by CUSD English teachers according to a college level scoring guide. An initial assessment of writing was given to eleventh graders in September. This follow-up assessment will assist teachers and students in measuring improvement since the initial assessment and identifying areas for further improvement.

Common Assessment Workshop: A one day workshop on developing common assessments will be presented by [Michael Morris](#) and [Mary Tribbey](#) on January 29 at the district office. The workshop will be identical to the ones presented on December 9 and 12 and will provide content on learning targets, matching assessment methods to the target and strategies for English Learners, as well as time for teachers to work on existing or new assessments.

Leadership Team Meeting: The district Leadership Team met on Thursday, January 15 at the Pleasant Valley High School Library for presentations on School Safety and on the Budget.

EDUSOFT: Edusoft rosters have been updated for all classes.

Student Discipline Data:

Students on 5 day suspension attending AFC: 5

Pending expulsion hearings:

- 6th grade=1; 7th grade=1; 8th grade=1; 9th grade=5; 10th grade=1; 11th grade=2; 12th grade=0.
- Current students on expulsion:
- Boys: Elem=0; 7th grade=5; 8th grade=9; 9th grade=12; 10th grade=24; 11th grade=25; 12th grade=9.
- Girls: Elem=0; 7th grade=0; 8th grade=4; 9th grade=7; 10th grade=4; 11th grade=6; 12th grade=1.

NEWS FROM BUSINESS SERVICES

Business Dept.: The Consolidated Application Part II will be completed by January 31, 2009. Updates to the categorical budgets and financial data are being done as needed. The payroll staff has been busy preparing the January payroll. W-2s are in the final stages of printing; it is anticipated that they will be mailed no later than Friday, January 23. Now that calendar year 2009 is here, those of you who have CUSD payroll check deductions for 403b investments might want to evaluate how much you contribute each month. The following website link provides a Questions and Answers format which will tell you how much your annual maximum limit is as well as a lot of useful information about 403b investments: http://www.403bwise.com/participants/getwise_faq.html. CUTA unit members who are on a "deferred pay" or summer pay schedule and receive a check in July and/or August pertaining to the prior school year need to keep in mind that these summer check(s) do not contain 403b deductions. If you have any questions, please contact the payroll department at 891-3000, ext. 113.

Information Technology News: Information Systems Analyst, [Michael Greer](#), will be leaving the IT Department on Tuesday, January 20; he has acquired a job in Sacramento with the State Legislative Analyst Branch. Michael has worked for CUSD for more than three years and has been a great asset to the team. If you know of someone who may be interested in his position, please refer them to the CUSD Human Resources Department. The application deadline for his position is January 28. Due to the fact that the IT Department will be short-handed during the duration of the hiring process, the following personnel changes will be made: [Patrick Bossetti](#) will be working a half day at PVHS as a Network Analyst and as a half-day sub for the Systems Analyst position at the District Office. As a Systems Analyst, Patrick will be responsible for the support of the District's student information system, backup/recovery operations, and server administration. [Nick Leffler](#) will be working a half day at PVHS and a half day at the District Office as a sub for the Network Analyst position. Nick will be performing desktop/server administration, support for district network services, and end user support. The IT Department thanks you for your patience as we move through this transitional period. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact John Sclare, 891-3000, ext. 118 or jsclare@chicousd.org.

Maintenance and Operations: After two years of development and field testing, UC Davis' California Lighting Technology Center, in collaboration with UC Davis facility managers, California energy regulators and providers, and a handful of key firms in the lighting industry, has unveiled an innovative outdoor night lighting system. The new system includes:

- Light-emitting diode (LED) lights. LEDs give off bright white light but use little electricity. Compared to conventional metal-halide lights, LED lights take less electricity (85 watts vs. 175 watts), last longer and contain no mercury.
- Motion sensors that detect the motion of a person or vehicle within about 35 feet. When no motion is detected for a designated period of time (30 seconds to 30 minutes), the sensor switches the LED light from its high level to a low level that uses half the energy. Even low level is bright enough to provide plenty of light for people entering school sites.

The new system uses about 20 percent of the energy of conventional parking lighting systems, yet provides better safety, reduces light pollution and makes less toxic waste. Maintenance/Operations staff will be working with PG&E representatives to determine if this is a viable solution to our outdoor lighting needs.

Safety: Have you heard the myth that laminated materials on the wall are more fire safe? Rick Doane with the Chico Fire Department explains that laminating materials can actually make them more of a fire hazard. Though it may take slightly more effort to ignite, lamination is a petroleum product; therefore, once it starts to burn, it will burn hotter and continue to spread. In addition, the lamination material will then drip down with an intense heat. Be careful out there! This past week six injuries have occurred in areas of: strains from lifting and using improper equipment, contusion from things being thrown, and injury from slipping or falling. Pay attention to where you are walking and be aware of your surroundings and the environment that you are working in, especially since students act and react quickly. When you come across a hazard, report it immediately to your site supervisor so that the issue can be addressed.

Nutrition Services: Did you know that Nutrition Services is self-supporting and does not receive General Fund support? As a result, we must earn money through meal and snack sales in order to pay all operating expenses and fees to the district. I encourage you to check us out and see what a great business we have to offer our students, community and district. [Liz Metzger](#) and [Tanya Harter](#) are working on grants through the California Department of Education for expanding the breakfast program at CHS and PVHS and a Start-Up Breakfast Grant for Emma Wilson and Chico Country Day School (they are part of CUSD's Breakfast, Lunch and Snack Program). Additionally, we are looking at a Summer Feeding Program at needy school sites that allows us to get meals year-round to needy students. Summer Feeding programs are to ensure continued nutrition to students so that they return to school ready to learn. This is very exciting and could mean up to \$180,000 in one-time dollars for much needed equipment and supplies in the department.

Get to know your Lunch Lady and Food Dude!



This week Tanya would like to introduce [Debbie Hassett](#) from Chico High School. She has been working for CUSD as a substitute for about 12 years and a regular employee since the 2006-2007 school year. Debbie grew up in Chico and attended Neal Dow, Hooker Oak, Chico Jr. High School, Chico High School and Fair View, when [Bob Kirkman](#) was the Principal. She came to work for Nutrition Services to earn extra money and be around for her children. As a child, Debbie enjoyed our Turkey Gravy and Mashed Potatoes on a cold winter's day. Now she really loves our Big Daddy's Pizza and Orange Chicken over rice.

Debbie has been married to Bret for 12 years and they have two children, Krystal and Kody. Bret works for the Paradise Parks and Recreation Department. An interesting fact is that Debbie had leukemia when she was two years old and they told her that she would never be able to have children and she proved them wrong. When Debbie is not working at Chico High, she loves to swim in Bidwell Park, take her dogs on long walks, bike ride and do arts and crafts with Krystal and Kody. Debbie loves her job and it shows. She goes above and beyond everyday. Debbie is a hard working and dedicated lunch lady. Stop by the Chico High kitchen sometime and say Hi to Debbie. Thank you Debbie!

NEWS FROM HUMAN RESOURCES

Professional Opportunity: The Education Department at CSU, Chico is holding an information meeting on Master's degree and advanced credential programs in Educational Administration, Curriculum and Instruction, and Library Media Teacher Services. The meeting will take place on January 21, 5:00 p.m. in Tehama 105. A flyer is attached at the end of this Newsletter. This is an excellent opportunity to look at new ways to stretch yourself professionally and look at new ways to advance your knowledge and serve students.

Classified Human Resources: Classified Human Resources is routinely updating and posting the seniority lists by classification on the CUSD web site at: http://www.chicousd.org/_dept/human_res/Classified/Seniority_Lists.html. I

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am including the website address so that classified employees can view and confirm their seniority placement. If you have any questions regarding your classification or its placement on the seniority list please contact Classified Human Resources @ 891-3000, ext. 132. An important point to remember is that the seniority list only shows those employees currently holding a permanent position in the classification. The internal openings listed below are Lateral Transfer notices. If you are interested in a Lateral Transfer you must submit a Letter of Interest. Letter of Interest forms can be found at [chicousd.org](http://www.chicousd.org) or you may simply submit a hand-written letter to the Classified Human Resources office that includes the information requested on the Lateral Transfer notice. The following internal openings are now available. The notice(s) for the classification(s) can be linked through our District's web site http://www.chicousd.org/_dept/human_res/Classified/index.html

POSITION	SITE	CLOSING DATE
Director-Information Technology	Business Services	1/23/09
Maintenance & Operations Supervisor	M&O	1/20/09

We are currently accepting on-line applications for the following classification(s):

Job Posting	Online App	Date Posted	Location	Salary Info
Senior Office Assistant <i>Posted: 1/16/2009 - Deadline: 1/30/2009 11:45 PM PST</i> Classified Staff		1/16/2009	Chico Unified, Chico Butte County	\$13.50-\$16.41/hour plus longevity steps. (Placement is at the first step for new employees.)
Information Systems Analyst <i>Posted: 1/14/2009 - Deadline: 1/28/2009 11:45 PM PST</i> Classified Staff		1/14/2009	Chico Unified, Chico Butte County	\$23.08 - 28.05/Hour (plus longevity steps)
Instructional Paraprofessional Specialized: Classroom <i>Posted: 1/13/2009 - Deadline: 1/27/2009 11:45 PM PST</i> Classified Staff		1/13/2009	Chico Unified, Chico Butte County	\$12.86-\$15.63/Hr plus longevity steps. (Placement is at the first step for new employees.)
Instructional Paraprofessional Specialized: Healthcare <i>Posted: 1/13/2009 - Deadline: 1/27/2009 11:45 PM PST</i> Classified Staff		1/13/2009	Chico Unified, Chico Butte County	\$12.86-\$15.63/Hr plus longevity steps. (Placement is at the first step for new employees.)
Senior Equipment Mechanic <i>Posted: 1/13/2009 - Deadline: 1/27/2009 11:45 PM PST</i> Classified Staff		1/13/2009	Chico Unified, Chico Butte County	\$16.02-\$19.48/Hour plus longevity steps. (Placement is at the first step for new employees.)
Senior Maintenance Worker - HVAC <i>Posted: 1/12/2009 - Deadline: 1/26/2009 11:45 PM PST</i> Classified Staff		1/12/2009	Chico Unified, Chico Butte County	\$16.82 - \$20.45/Hour + longevity steps (Placement will be at the first step for new employees.)
Coordinator - Student Information <i>Posted: 1/8/2009 - Deadline: 1/22/2009 11:45 PM PST</i> Classified Staff		1/8/2009	Chico Unified, Chico Butte County	\$23.08-28.05/Hour + Longevity Steps (Placement is at the first step for new employees)
Healthcare Assistant Specialized <i>Posted: 1/7/2009 - Deadline: 1/21/2009 11:45 PM PST</i> Classified Staff		1/7/2009	Chico Unified, Chico Butte County	\$17.66-\$21.47/Hour plus longevity steps. (Placement is at the first step for new employees.)

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[Substitute School Bus Driver](#)

Posted: 10/21/2008 - Deadline: Until Filled
Classified Staff



10/21/2008 Chico Unified, Chico
Butte County

All applications for permanent positions must be submitted online. If you do not have internet access or if you need assistance completing an online application please contact Classified Human Resources at 530-891-3000, ext 108, 109 or 132 and an appointment will be scheduled with a staff member to assist you in completing the employment application. If you have any questions regarding these recruitments please contact Classified Human Resources.

NEWS FROM SCHOOL SITES

"Mean Girls" and "Bullying": [Cherise Miller](#), a guidance aide of the elementary student support program which is administrated by Scott Lindstrom, helped facilitate a training in "mean girls" and "bullying" prevention to Chapman elementary sixth grade boys and girls on Friday, January 9. The event was covered by KHSL-TV and can be viewed at: <http://www.khsltv.com/content/topstories/story/Chico-Schools-Give-Bullying-the-Backseat/qB1gchf5b0CjrBpn2BYCGA.csp>

Chico High School Honor Band: The following students were recognized and selected from all schools north of the Tehachapi Mountains for the Northern California Honor Band: [Chris Barr](#), [Seth Catterall](#), [Noah Fabish](#), [Sara Love](#), [Nick Maes](#), [Catherine Nomura](#), [Dylan Oliva](#), [Michael Taylor](#) and [Roxanne Winslow](#).

Further Recognition: The following CHS students were recognized by the Northern California Band Directors Association and will be playing at Humboldt State University at Van Duzer Theater on February 7 at 7:00 p.m.: [Chris Barr](#), [Cameron Cook](#), [Sara Love](#), [Catherine Nomura](#), [Michael Taylor](#), and [Roxanne Winslow](#).

CHS Ag Showcase: The CHS Agriculture Department would like to invite all interested to come to the CHS Ag Showcase on Friday, March 6, 9:00am-1:30pm. Jr. High School students will be invited to visit and see what is happening in Ag and all the opportunities the Ag department has to offer. Bus transportation and lunch will be provided. There was a great turnout last year and it is hoped the tradition will continue. All interested Jr. High School students are welcome! Thank you for your continued support. – CHS Ag Teachers [Quinn Mendez](#), [Sheena Zweigle](#) and [Kevin Payne](#). The Ag Showcase Tentative Schedule is as follows:

9:00-9:30:	Introduction of teachers and overview of the day (Williams Theatre)
9:30-10:00:	Rotation 1 (Plant/Horticulture/Floral-hands on labs...how to's...)
10:00-10:30:	Rotation 2 (Welding/Plasma Cam Demo)
10:30-11:00:	Rotation 3 (Animal Science-Dairy cows-how to make butter)
11:00-11:30:	Rotation 4 (Equipment Demo's)
11:30-12:15:	Lunch
12:15-1:00:	Door prizes (raffle), (talk about ag classes/sequences for next year)
1:00:	Back on bus and head back to school

Junior High Honor Band and Choir: Congratulations to the students who made honor band and honor choir. It is indeed a privilege and honor to be part of these groups. Some schools try for years to get a student into honor band and CJHS had eight students participate this year! Their concert scheduled for Saturday, 4:30 p.m. in Laxson Auditorium on the CSUC Campus is FREE and open to the public. Come and support these young musicians and enjoy a free band and choir concert. Students participating from Chico Junior High School are: **Band:** [Jazmin Strachanowski](#), [Gabriel Buccola](#), [Kara Daisy Oberheim](#), [Will Firth](#), [Raja Orr](#), [Camellia Boutras](#), [Evan Goodson](#) and [Kyle Leheldt](#); and **Choir:** [Morgan Isaacs](#), [Mara Christensen](#), [Evanne Welsh](#), [Isabel Blanco](#), [Julianna Hughes](#), [Mindy Mooney](#), [James Montague](#) and [Jeremiah Valdez](#).

CUSD IN THE NEWS

Enterprise Record

[Letter: What's the benefit in CUSD changes?](#)

KHSL

[Chico Unified to Reorganize Elementary Schools](#)

K-12 Teachers...

Considering an administrative position?

-- Act Now!



An Administrative Credential with an MA in
Education can be yours in two years!

Applications are being accepted for the
2009/2010 Educational Leadership
and Administration Program at CSU, Chico.

***Information Meeting: Jan. 21
5 pm in Tehama 105***

To apply, visit

http://www.csuchico.edu/educ/progs_ma_admin.html

Classes begin Summer 2009

A Life-Long Network of Leadership for Learning

For more information on the

CSU, Chico School Leaders Cadre Program:

Department of Education, CSU, Chico • 530-898-6421