



The Superintendent's Update

January 2014

NEWS FROM KELLY

Little Chico Creek's "Mr. Tom" receives January Superintendents Award: Mr. Tom McClain, or Mr. Tom, as he is known at LCC, is a magnificent example of the many community members that volunteer so much of their time to help make our schools such an positive places to learn. He first became a part of the LCC's family when his granddaughter enrolled in Kindergarten in 2007. Over the past seven years he has built magazine holders for the library, trained teachers to use laptops, and demonstrated how exciting science can be to students. He has volunteered to go to environmental camp with 6th graders and has been part of the PTA's Reading incentive program, Pawing Through Pages. Staff members have made the following comments regarding Mr. Tom:

- Mr. Grant, LCC 5th Grade Teacher: The word for Mr. Tom is "RESOLUTE". He is the unwavering and unshakable - when all is whirring and swirling around him, he stands fast, with that calm and soothing Mr. Tom smile.
- Mrs. Werner, LCC K Teacher: Mr. Tom has made amazing wooden shapes for all three kindergarten classes, done presentations on the water cycle, dinosaurs, and life cycle of a plant. Not to mention, the wonderful computer classes I've taken from him and he has also been instrumental in getting my classroom student computers up to date!!
- Mr. Martini, LCC Special Day Class Teacher: Mr. Tom takes the time to present his units that correlate to our science curriculum. He modifies and adapts his science material to meets the diverse needs of our student population. He is very considerate and includes our class in all of his wonderful science curriculum! Mr. Tom is a wonderful addition to our educational team!
- Mrs. Enns, LCC 5th Grade Teacher: He helps my students and me prepare for the Science Fair. He comes in, talks up science, gets the kids interested and trouble shoots problems.... I want to be Mr. Tom when I grow up!
- Mrs. Edwards, LCC 6th Grade Teacher: 6h)He is inquisitive ... always asking questions and encouraging students to ask their own questions. Brings in hands on experiments and answers all questions, no matter how interesting.
- Mrs. Galli, LCC 3rd Grade Teacher: Mr. Tom inspires kids to love science! He has made bread to demonstrate chemical change, brought in numerous hand-on activities to spark kids' learning.

Mr. Tom goes above and beyond the call of duty as a volunteer and it is clear he is loved and respected by LCC! Thank you Mr. Tom McClain.

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR STAFF

An Email from a FVHS Parent: *"Hi, I am unsure of whom to email but I wanted to let someone know how amazing Mr. McKay is. He has gone way above and beyond all his duties to do the best for my daughter even though she is extremely difficult. He has worked after hours for meetings, come up with innovative plans for her and has helped her get connected for support of her issues. I have never met a teacher let alone a principal truly really care for their students the way he has done. Just wanted to let you know that I am so grateful for him, if it were not for him, my daughter would not be on the path to graduation. Thank you, (FVHS Parent)"*

Bidwell Jr. High Teacher Recognized for Excellence: Congratulations to our very own **Bill Battaglia** for getting published! The title of his publication is: "The Make-Believe Dance Assignment" and can be found in the January 2014 Vol 42 No 5 edition of *The National Association of Student Councils Leadership Journal*. Bill continues to be recognized by various organizations for his outstanding Leadership program at Bidwell. This is a list of the awards/recognition he has received in just the last 2 years:

- 2012 PTA Continuing Service Award
- 2011-2012 & 2012-2013 Outstanding Activities Program (California Association of Student Leaders and California Association of Directors of Activities)
- 2013 Masonic Hall Teacher of the Year
- 2013 Warren E. Shull Middle Level Activity Director of the Year for the State of California-California Association of Directors of Activities
- 2013 Warren E. Shull Middle Level Activity Director of the Year Region VII –National Association of Student Councils
- 2013 Horace Mann Abraham Lincoln Fellowship

We are all very proud of the quality program Bill continues to provide our students!

Debbie Aldred recognized for Ruler of the Month



NEWS FROM EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Congratulations to Pleasant Valley and to Fair View High for being two of the 67 grant recipients statewide. Special recognition should go to Tom Phelan, Fran Anderson, and Alexey Ledwith for their work on these grants.

Gifts for All first graders in Chico Unified School District: All CUSD first graders will be receiving the gift of a book this Valentine's Day. These books are a gift from the members of the Butte Literacy Council. Their goal is to promote a love of reading from the classroom to the home, and they like to encourage parents to read with their children. We support their work and thank them for all their efforts in promoting literacy in our community.

2014 Summer Staff Development Opportunity: We proudly announce the 2014 Summer Satellite *Crossing Lines: Tools for Teaching Tough Topics* sponsored by The Memorial Library of NYC and The Holocaust Educators Network. Teacher's grades 5-12 are invited to join us in exploring the lessons of the *Holocaust* and the more recent *Secret War in Laos*. Meet survivors, witnesses and expert presenters during this exciting week-long seminar. Enjoy traditional cuisine and cultural music & dance in the heart of the Mien, Hmong, and Japanese strawberry fields of Elk Grove/Florin/Sacramento. See attached flyer for details and a link to the online application. Space is limited ...don't miss this opportunity! Call Pam Bodnar 895-4115 if you have any questions.

Guided Reading Workshop – Approximately 60 elementary teachers have signed up for a series of workshops on “high quality reading instruction designed to meet ELA Common Core Standards through small group instruction”. This group plans to use the Fountas and Pinnell book Guided Reading to guide them through discussions regarding word work, miscue analysis, characteristics of leveled books, comprehension, assessments and running records among other topics. The sessions begin on Monday February 3rd at Chapman school.

Grade 7/8 to Grade 6/7/8 Middle School Model Transition: The 6th grade staff committee completed its second meeting January 27. The focus of this meeting was on credentialing requirements for sixth grade teaching staff and the junior high schools and what that means to developing the sixth grade program. In addition, the committee planned for the parent/community meetings and visits to schools with 6th-8th programs. Three parent/community meetings have been scheduled: Feb. 25th at Marsh, Feb. 26th at Chico Junior and Feb. 27th at Bidwell. The meetings are open to all parents and community members. Parents of current third and fourth grade students are encouraged to attend.

LCAP planning meetings: California’s new Local Control Funding Formula budgeting process requires school districts to develop a process for members of the parents and employee groups to provide input into a portion of the budget plan called the Local Control Accountability Plan. Chico Unified held its first Parent Committee Meeting on Dec. 3. A meeting for employee groups will be held on Jan. 30. On Feb. 6, a combined parent committee and employee groups meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the library at Pleasant Valley High School. These meetings are designed to help the district build an LCAP plan that helps the district meet the priorities set by the state in the LCFF.

Common Core State Standards and SBAC Assessment Professional Development

Secondary Teachers have a number of professional development opportunities to discuss and analyze the instructional implications of the **SBAC Practice Test** and Common Core Standards.

25 CUSD math teachers attended the January 28th workshop.

Teachers interested in attending the other dates should email Michael Morris. mmorris@chicousd.org

Workshops outcomes include collaboratively developing in-depth familiarity with:

Scoring guides, performance tasks and item types used by SBAC; cognitive rigor and skills required, technology skills required, using individual Practice Test items instructionally, progression of learning demands from grade to grade (including Gr. 9-10), opportunities for common instructional aims between disciplines.

Secondary science and social science teachers benefit from an analysis of the underlying college and career readiness skills required by these assessments and discussing the instructional strategies that support them. One example is writing arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

Workshops

DATE	TIME	Subject	LOCATION	Who	SBAC Practice Tests available to be analyzed
T January 28	8:30-3:00	Math	LCR	Secondary Math teachers	Math Gr 7, 8, 11
Th January 30	8:30-3:00	English (ELA)	LCR	Secondary ELA teachers	ELA/Literacy Gr 7, 8, 11
T February 4	8:30-3:00	Science	LCR	Secondary Science teachers	ELA/Literacy Gr 7, 8, 11 & Math Gr 7, 8, 11
T February 11	8:30-3:00	Social Science	LCR	Secondary Social science teachers	ELA/Literacy Gr 7, 8, 11
T February 18	8:30-3:00	Sp. Education	LCR	Special Education teachers	ELA/Literacy Gr 7, 8, 11 & Math Gr 7, 8, 11

Leadership Team Meeting: CUSD's Administrative Leadership Team met on January 16th. The Leadership meeting focused on Facilities, Local Control Funding Formula, Local Control and Accountability Plan, Common Core Learning Goals and Common Core Field Test. [Debbie Aldred](#), Principal of Sierra View, was recognized as the District's December Leader of the Month. This award is sponsored by [Jack Danielson](#) and Golden Apple Insurance Congratulations Debbie and thank you Jack! The next Leadership Team meeting is February 13th.

Common Core Implementation Funds:

The state has provided the district funds to help support the implementation of the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in the amount of \$200.96 dollars per student. This has resulted in approximately \$2.4 million in implementation funds. As a condition of receiving CCSS implementation funds, the district is required to develop and adopt a plan delineating how the CCSS implementation funds will be spent. The plan must be explained in a public meeting of the governing board of the school district and then be adopted in a subsequent public meeting. The initial public hearing was held on November 20th at the regular board of education meeting.

Implementation Funds can be expended for any of three purposes:

- Professional development for teachers, administrators, and paraprofessional educators or other classified employees involved in the direct instruction of pupils that is aligned to the academic content standards.
- Instructional materials aligned to the academic content standards.
- Integration of these academic content standards through technology-based instruction for purposes of improving the academic performance of pupils, including, but not necessarily limited to, expenditures necessary to support the administration of computer-based assessments and provide high-speed, high-bandwidth Internet connectivity for the purpose of administration of computer-based assessments.

An initial recommendation was made to the board ([agenda](#)) to spend 85% of the funds on technology to support student learning and 15% on professional development for district teachers, classified staff and administrators.

This plan was approved by the Board of Education at their December 18th Board Meeting with a follow-up report to be presented at the February regular Board meeting.

Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC)

Field Test Update

Students in grades 3-8 and 11 will take the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) Field Tests this spring. The field Test window for the district is April 7 and May 16, 2014.

Most students will now take *both* ELA and math items in the field test. The estimated assessment time is about 3.5-4 total hours over several days.

Students will also take one performance task in either ELA OR Math.

Field tests serve as "tests of the tests," allowing experts to gauge the accuracy and reliability of individual test items before finalizing the assessments for full-scale use. As such, no field test scores will be produced or reported.

Practice Tests

The Smarter Balanced Practice Tests allow teachers, students, parents, and other interested parties to experience the features of online testing and gain insight into how Smarter Balanced will assess students' mastery of the Common Core. To log in to the Practice Test, simply select "sign in" or "okay" to move through the pre-filled log in screens.

<http://sbac.portal.airast.org/practice-test/>

Important Limitations: The Practice Tests provide a preview of the Smarter Balanced assessments, but they do not encompass the full range of content that students will encounter on the spring 2014 Field Test or on the operational assessments, and should not be used to guide instructional decisions. In addition, users will not receive reports or scores from the Practice Tests. Although the operational

assessment system in 2014-15 will adjust the difficulty of questions throughout the assessment, the Practice Tests do not do this.

Curious about the Common Core State Standards and SBAC Assessments?

See [Common Core State Standards](#) under our *Parent Resources tab* on the [district website](#) which has links to parent resources for common core state standards including the official version of the state standards and links to the [practice test](#).

The Update on New State Law that affects Testing and Accountability

The Governor recently signed Assembly Bill 484, the State Superintendent's sponsored legislation to make the state's student assessment system reflect the California Common Core State Standards (CCSS). For the current school year, AB 484 requires districts to administer field tests of the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium's (SBAC) assessments in the spring. Field tests serve as "tests of the tests" ensuring the operational versions, slated for administration statewide in the 2014-15 school year, produce fair and consistent results. No student field test scores will be produced or reported for this year. The new assessments are expected to emphasize critical thinking, reasoning, and problem-solving, the teaching and learning needed to prepare all students for the demands of college and the modern workplace. The new law also suspends most, but not all, Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) assessments for the current school year, allowing school districts to prepare for and transition to the new SBAC assessments. Students in grades 5, 8 and 10 will take the existing science tests for their grade levels. Students with special needs in grades 2 – 11 who are currently being tested using the California Alternate Performance Assessment (CAPA) will take the CAPA test in Spring, 2014. All eligible students in Grade 11 will be able to take Early Assessment Program (EAP) assessments in English and Math. Students will take the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) in grade 10.

Early Assessment Program (EAP):

Under the new AB 484 legislation, for 2013-14 the EAP assessments will continue to be offered to all eligible CUSD grade 11 students.

All grade 11 students who participate in the SBAC Field Test will also be able to participate in the EAP. The EAP is designed to provide students, their families, and high schools with early signals about students' readiness for college-level English and mathematics. The EAP identifies a student's need for additional preparation in these areas while still enrolled in high school. The goal of the EAP program is to have California high school graduates enter the CSU fully prepared to begin college-level study. Students deemed to be College-Ready based on their EAP results are exempt from taking California State University and participating community college placement tests in English and mathematics and move directly into college-level classes upon enrollment.

California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE)

The next administration of the high school exit exam will be held on **February 4th and 5th, 2014** for grades 10 & 12 students and adults who have not yet passed the exam.

The Chico Unified district pass rate for students taking the test for the first time in grade 10 continues to exceed the state passing rate.

Current law specifies that all public high school students must take the CAHSEE for the first time in grade ten, including students with disabilities.

CALPADS

To fully comply with federal accountability requirements, California has enacted a data collection and reporting system, California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS). Collection and reporting of this data is a joint effort between all CUSD schools, Business Services, Educational Services, Human Resources, Information Technology, and Nutrition Services. The district recently certified our data for CALPADS data submission for Fall 1 which includes 2013-14 Enrollment Counts, 2012-13 Grads and Drops, English Learner Counts and Immigrant Counts.

We are currently working on Fall 2 which includes Student Course Enrollments, Teacher Assignments and English Learner Education Services.

State Mathematics Framework

The State Board of Education at its November 2013 meeting adopted the new *Mathematics Framework for California Public Schools*, which provides context for implementing the CCSS for mathematics. The newly adopted mathematics framework is available on the CDE Website at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ma/cf/>.

State English Framework

Curriculum frameworks offer guidance for implementing content standards. Frameworks describe the curriculum and instruction necessary to help students achieve proficiency, and they specify the design of instructional materials and professional development.

If you wish to review and perhaps comment on the new draft 2014 **English Language Arts/ English Language Development** state framework, the public has until **February 13, 2014**. The draft framework is on the California Department of Education's [Public Review and Comment on the ELA/ELD Framework](#) Web page, where the public may leave comments via the *digital survey* or by *email*.

Interested parties may also visit one of the 23 [Learning Resource Display Centers](#) statewide to review hard copies of the draft framework.

The public's comments will then be presented to the Instructional Quality Commission in the spring for review and possible inclusion into the final *ELA/ELD Framework*. Then there will be a second public review in late spring or early summer.

The State Board is scheduled to take action on the final *ELA/ELD Framework* next summer.

NEWS FROM BUSINESS SERVICES

Maintenance and Operations

Water Conservation: The Cal Water District in Chico has advised everyone to start thinking about conserving water. Chico gets their water supply from an aquifer below the city. Cal Water said there is no need to panic, but it will not hurt to start saving water. Cal Water District Manager of Chico, Mike Pembroke stated: *"We have seen some historical lows at some of our wells but overall it is still a strong aquifer, and there is nothing to panic about at this time. A single-family home usually shuts off their irrigation systems in the winter, but lately we are starting to see our customers turning them back on due to the lack of rain. I believe if we received our normal average amount of rain, that would see our levels recover. When you run your dishwasher you are using 8-15 gallons of water. When you flush your toilet, you are using 3-8 gallons of water, and every minute you run the hose outside 5-10 gallons of water is used. If you leave the faucet on for a minute while you brush your teeth, 8 gallons of water goes down the drain. For every minute you are in the shower you use 20-and-a-half gallons of water. Our average meter customer uses about 14,000 gallons of water a month. We are talking about pretty big numbers. We are in a drought, and the worst one that California has seen. I just encourage people not to take it for granted. There is no reason to panic, but we should always be aware of the situation."*

M&O began a water conservation program four years ago. One of the steps was to turn off all irrigation from November 1 through March 1. These are the months that the City of Chico calculates our sewer cost. So we save double in not using water and reducing our sewer bills. Another is to take advantage of the Cal Water Rebates for water conservation. Last year we were able to put in six smart clocks for irrigation. This year we will be able to put in another eighteen so the entire district will have them, all funded through Cal Water. These clocks have ambient air percentage control (they adjust the run time according to outside temperature), rain clicks (so in a rain event they automatically turn off), and can be controlled by remote control when the Irrigation Specialist is working on the system. We have lowered our water consumption by 31% over a four year period.

Par Courses: M&O are still working to get the Par Courses installed. We will be finished at Citrus shortly, and that will complete all five of the Elementary courses at: Parkview, Rosedale, McManus, Citrus and Chapman. We will next be working on the Junior High courses to be installed at Chico Jr. and Bidwell Jr. Many thanks to Maintenance worker [Dan Rice](#) (project lead) and his crew of [Keith Kelly](#), [Luke Steinberg](#), [Dan Hunt](#), [John Michaels](#), [Eric German](#), and [Mark Giraldes](#).

Transportation Is Making Cotton Candy: [Cotton Candy](#) is coming to the Special Ed. classrooms. It is that time of year that we review and practice school bus evacuations. For the Regular Ed. students this means watching a video on bus evacuations and actually practicing evacuating a bus in case of an emergency. The students review what their part is to ensure that everyone is safe in a variety of circumstances. This includes staying calm, following the driver's instructions, and knowing which exit to use in which type of situation (i.e., in case of an accident where the bus lands on its side, the roof exits will become the first option to evacuate the bus). We decided to make our own school bus evacuation video for the Special Ed. students. Bus driver [Karen Nemat](#) and [Cotton Candy](#) (the puppet) are in the process of making a DVD so our students will see a familiar face as they review what they should do if there is an emergency on the bus. The video should be ready in the next couple of weeks.



Karen Nemat-Nasser and Cotton Candy

NEWS FROM HUMAN RESOURCES

NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE

CUTA- Negotiations between CUTA and the District for 2012/13 and 2013/14 were completed with the ratification of the tentative agreement on December 18th. The parties will exchange initial proposals for the 2014/15 school year prior to February 1, 2014. These will be sunshined at the Board meeting on February 5, 2014. Our first negotiations session is scheduled for February 13, 2014.

The District is in the process of completing the work to fulfill the financial settlement with CUTA (and CUMA). For CUTA this includes distributions to retirees for medical premiums paid by them and some out of pocket costs for the transition from the Red to the Blue plan. The agreement with CUTA also included paying active members for medical premium costs they paid during 2012/13 and 2013/2014. The balance will go to active members as a one-time payment. It is expected that this process will be completed on or before the end of February.

CSEA, Chapter 110- The CSEA 110 and District bargaining teams last met on December 10th. The District has been working on the calculations to determine if a potential Golden Handshake for this school year meets the requirements of Government Code 20904. The teams are looking at dates to meet in the next few weeks. The final determination as to whether or not the golden handshake can move forward should be made in the next few weeks.

CUMA- CUMA accepted the District's offer of a one-time, off schedule bonus for the 2013/14 school year. The District is in the process of calculating the amount for all CUMA members and expects that checks will be distributed to CUMA members by the end of February.

Classified Human Resources

We want to remind all current employees of the ways to learn of employment opportunities.

Announcements for Open and/or Promotional Only Recruitments:

Announcements for recruitments to establish eligible lists of classified positions (excluding Parent Restricted Aide and School Aide-Exempt classifications) are posted at the following sites:

- a. Chico Unified School District's Main Office entryway
- b. Edjoin (Edjoin.org)
- c. Butte College
- d. Chico State University
- e. All CUSD work sites

Job Site Transfer/Seniority Notices:

It is important to remember that all internal Job Site Transfer/Seniority notices are only sent to those employees who currently hold a permanent position in the classification that is open.

Lateral Transfer Notices

If you are interested in an open position in a classification that you currently do not hold, Lateral Transfer notices are posted at the following sites:

- a. Chico Unified School District website,
<http://www.chicousd.org/Departments/Human-Resources/Job-Openings/index.html>
- b. All CUSD work sites

It is essential that you view these posted sites so that opportunities outside your current classification are not missed. If you view one of these sites on a weekly basis you should never miss a posted position.

We want to encourage all interested applicants to continuously monitor our postings as we expect an unusually large number of recruitments prior to the end of the school year. Based upon employees who stated an interest in retiring if a Golden Handshake was implemented we expect over 70 position openings. This represents over 18 different classifications of employment. We believe that even if the Golden Handshake is not implemented that a significant number of openings will result. During the last school year we had 27 classified employees retire. If you have any questions about any job, all job descriptions are posted at <http://www.chicousd.org/Departments/Human-Resources/Classified-Non-Teaching/Job-Descriptions/index.html>. The classified HR department is always willing to assist anyone who has any questions regarding job descriptions.

FROM NUTRITION SERVICES

Local Produce Served with EVERY MEAL! Check out our local produce this month, download the Nutrition Services app TODAY; search School Lunch by Nutrislice and see what's for Breakfast & Lunch daily. We also have FACEBOOK and Twitter @CUSDNutrition1.

Did I mention Mandarins & Kiwi? We have officially started mandarin season, the earliest season we can remember. The first trees to get color and sweetness typically have smaller fruit but we thought we'd take a chance to offer it up to you because kids love them so much. Satsuma Mandarins will continue to get sweeter as we move deeper into the season. These wonderful gems come from Corning . Come Join Us!

NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOLS

FVHS to Present at the California Foster Youth Education Summit: Bernie Vigallon stated they received the following email from Cathy Murnighan, Even Management for the Summit:

From: Catherine Murnighan

Congratulations! Your workshop proposal has been accepted for the California Foster Youth Education Summit in March 2014. We are working on the schedule as to what workshops will be held when. I will get that information to you after the first of the year. Thanks again, and look forward to working with you on this event.

CHS ACE (Architecture, Construction & Engineering) Program: The second semester in ACE is off to a strong start. Technology is the key word. Two new 3D printing machines have been acquired so students can produce actual 3D models from their computer designs in Solid Works. In ROP CAD Drafting, teams of engineering students are developing prototype models of actual products for ROP Business Partners. Our newest partner is **Luke Winter**, owner of Trucker clothing store in downtown Chico. Luke has approached ROP to help him design a new line of wooden sunglasses called, "WOODZEE". The glasses are made completely of recycled wood materials and thanks to ROP students, **Mason Mashburn, Jarod Stidham, Brandon Walker, Kody Hassett** and **Teague Fritzwater**, come in a variety of styles. This team of talented students has already designed and prototyped four pair of women's styles. They will be designing a line of men's and children's glasses when they meet with Luke's staff in the coming months. The new glasses should be available soon. Luke plans to start manufacturing them in China, but wants to move his manufacturing to Chico in the near future. This is all part of his master plan to utilize local resources and students in an effort to support the community and our local schools. All students who take engineering and architecture classes at Chico High or Pleasant Valley High can also benefit from top level software and access to all these exciting tools. The labs at each school will soon be equipped with additional 3D printers to allow total student access. The software used in each lab meets industry standard, and includes Solid Works, AutoCad, Revit and Mastercam. All the software is now being made available to our students free of charge. Students at both high schools can enroll in the ROP capstone class called ROP CAD Drafting. Any student who enrolls in ROP can expect to work with clients like Trucker and Westside Research or earn an internship with companies like Thomas Welding, Melton Group or Russell, Galloway Associates. Would you like your student to be on the cutting edge of technology? Have them attend Chico High or Pleasant Valley High and sign up for classes in ACE. This is just a small sample of what we do. Feel free to arrange a visit by contacting either instructor, Mike Bruggeman at Chico High; mbruggem@chicousd.org or Tom Phelan at Pleasant Valley High; tphelan@chicousd.org.

Science Fair Workshop: CHJS Science teachers Alex Erwin, Mike Emmons, and Mary Anne Pella-Donnelly hosted the Chico Science Fair Workshop in the CJHS library. Not only did they have a library filled with K-12 students, the engaging them in designing marshmallow shooters. Thank you Science teachers for making learning interesting and fun!

Thank you Mom's: McManus students had a great time at Mom's the other day - their support of our schools in Chico is tremendous. Tina



Welcome Back: Shasta students and staff were excited to welcome back one of their student's fathers from an overseas tour of duty. The student had no idea his dad was slated to return and was very surprised. Our student, Gavin, his younger brother, and his mom had not seen their dad for six months. Classes lined the walkway from the parking lot to the back of campus waving flags to commemorate the Green Beret for his dedication and service to our country.



CUSD IN THE NEWS

Enterprise Record

[Grant will help **Chico** police divert young gang recruits](#)

[Chico schools to comply with transgender law](#)

[Letter: Scholarship group needs help](#)

[Gifted and Talented Education nominations open in **Chico** schools](#)

[Enterprise-Record seeks nominations for **Chico** Sports Hall of Fame](#)

[Chico school leaders to get budget report](#)

[Nothing certain, but **Chico** school budget brighter](#)

News and Review

Arts for All

A collective voice for Arts in the Chico Unified School District

presents our

4th Annual Performing and Fine Arts Gala

A district-wide celebration featuring: fine arts gallery of student artwork, dance, choir, band and theater performances.

February 12th, 2014

6:30 p.m., gallery open

7:00 p.m., program begins

CUSD Center for the Arts,
located at the PVHS campus
1475 East Avenue, Chico, CA

\$10 Tickets available at:

The Music Connection, CUSD District Office, CHS, PVHS,
Inspire School of the Arts, and a limited number at the door.

For more information contact: *Kim Kurnizki, 343-1462 or e-mail
artsforallcUSD@gmail.com. Arts for All is a component fund of the
North Valley Community Foundation, www.nvcf.org*



Umpqua Bank Good
Deed Award



Supported in part by
funds from the
City of Chico

The Butte Schools Health and Wellness Center will open Thursday, January 30th to serve you and your family's preventive, acute, wellness and lab needs.

How to I schedule an appointment?

You may call toll-free 1-866-959-9355 today, and beginning Monday, January 27th, you may also call the HWC directly at 530-879-7582 to schedule an appointment.



Where is the HWC located?

The Health and Wellness Center is at [500 Cohasset Road, Suite 24 in Chico](#). (Near the corner of Cohasset and Parmac Roads, near Chico Sports Club and Department of Motor Vehicles)

BUTTE SCHOOLS
HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTER

Who is providing services at the HWC?

Ken Owen, PA-C and Karen Kushner, PA-C will be treating you at the HWC. As certified physician assistants, both are licensed health care professionals who practice medicine and bring a breadth of knowledge and skills to your care. They can do a variety of procedures, including, take histories, conduct physical exams, diagnose and treat illnesses, order and interpret tests, counsel on preventative health care, and write prescriptions.

Dannielle Harwood, MD, will serve as their supervising physician. Although she is not available for patient care through the HWC, she will regularly review patient files and provide consultations to Mr. Owen and Ms. Kushner.

What types of services may I receive at the HWC?

Preventive	Acute	Disease Management	Lab
Health Risk Assessments and follow-up visits	Colds	Allergies	Blood draws and specimen collection for most laboratory tests, including those ordered outside of the HWC
Screenings	Flu	Asthma	
Wellness coaching	Infections	Diabetes	
Vaccinations	Sore throat	Cholesterol	
Physicals, including well-woman exams	Cut, sprains, strains	Blood pressure	
	Muscle and joint pains		

Prescription medications will also be available for dispensing at the HWC beginning in May, 2014.

How to Schedule an Appointment at the new Health and Wellness Center

All you have to do is call 1.866.959.9355



When can you call?

Monday: 4:00 am – 2:00 pm
Tuesday: 4:00 am – 5:00 pm
Wednesday: 4:00 am – 5:00 pm
Thursday: 4:00 am – 5:00 pm
Friday: 4:00 am – 5:00 pm
Saturday: 5:00 am – 10:00 am

Or, beginning January 27th, call the
Health and Wellness Center during
its business hours at 530.879.7582

Monday: 8:00 am – 7:00 pm
Tuesday: 6:00 am – 7:00 pm
Wednesday: 7:00 am – 7:00 pm
Thursday: 7:00 am – 7:00 pm
Friday: 7:00 am – 5:00 pm
Saturday: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Sunday: CLOSED



Christy Patterson
Butte Schools Self-Funded Programs
500 Cohasset Road, Suite 24
Chico, CA 95926
530-879-7438 (voice)
530-879-7595 (fax)
www.bssfpna.org



Sean Sullivan
Transportation
Instructor/Trainer
Chico Chapter 110

"When I talk to people about schools, I use a movie analogy. I tell them, 'Have you ever stayed and watched the credits after a movie and seen the hundreds of people it took to make it? Well, if the district was a movie, then all those people would be classified workers. So when you thank your child's teacher, you are also thanking the people that make it possible for their classroom to function.'"

January/February 2014 15

**State Schools Chief Tom Torlakson Announces Grants
to Create Advanced Learning Opportunities for Students**

SACRAMENTO—Sixty-seven California school districts will receive more than \$3.3 million in Specialized Secondary Programs (SSP) grants to help them develop innovative programs to help high school students learn, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson announced today. The list of grantees is attached.

This grant has a long history of helping support innovative high school programs that help students develop real-world 21st century skills,” Torlakson said. “Now that these funds are available again, California will carry on its work of developing cutting-edge programs so students can explore areas of study in a deeper way while developing their talents and skills for college or career.”

Funds for the SSP, which is authorized by the California *Education Code*, were “flexed” in 2009 during the state budget crisis, meaning the funds could have been used for any general educational purpose instead of just for creating advanced programs. However, flexibility for SSP expired at the beginning of this month.

The 67 grantees may use the funds for programs that provide high school students with advanced learning opportunities in a variety of subjects. These subjects include English-language arts, mathematics, science, history and social science, foreign language, and visual performing arts, among other subjects. These programs may include Linked Learning pathways, career academies, and arts-integrated models. The programs must be rich in content, models for providing instruction based on California’s standards, and use varied instructional methods. The grants range between \$20,000 and \$50,000 for one year and must be used for initial planning. Schools may apply for an implementation grant as funding becomes available. Since its inception in 1984-85, the SSP has funded more than 200 programs.

For more information, please visit the funding profile for the [Specialized Secondary Programs](#) Web page.

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The Memorial Library and Holocaust Educators Network, in collaboration with the AfriPeace Foundation, invite you to join us for the HEN Summer Satellite Seminar

June 16 – 20, 2014

This one-week seminar will provide teachers with the content background needed to create safe spaces for exploring sensitive topics within the classroom, such as bullying, exclusion, and state-sanctioned forced removal and genocide. Through the lens of the Holocaust and the more recent "Secret War in Laos," participants will examine the impact of "bystanders" and the power of "upstanders" to change the history of their communities and the world.

- ❖ Join like-minded colleagues to explore strategies for promoting resilience and social justice utilizing powerful primary and secondary sources
- ❖ Work with Holocaust survivors, Secret War witnesses, Japanese-American internees & local activists
- ❖ Collaborate on developing Common Core aligned lessons and activities
- ❖ Explore technology tools for taking student writing and voices beyond the walls of the classroom
- ❖ Receive primary source books and videos by local authors/presenters

Who? Teachers in grades 5-12 – across grade levels and disciplines

When? June 16 - 20, 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM (Note: June 19, 9:30 AM – 5:00 PM + Evening Cultural Event - 5:00 – 8:00 PM)

Where? Buddhist Church of Florin, 7235 Pritchard Rd, Sacramento (in Florin's historic "Japantown")

Cost? Free!

Credit? Three Continuing Ed Units (CEUs) available for purchase upon completing the seminar

How? To register, [click here](#) for our online application. Applications are due by March 5, 2014. Late applications will be considered on a space-available basis.



Questions? Contact [Pam Bodnar](#) or [Gail Desler](#)

TRUST YOUR HEART.



Your heart ticks constantly, keeping track of the seconds, minutes, hours, and days of your life.

So when it comes to good health, trust your internal clock: **WHAT you eat** isn't the only thing that matters for your well-being.

WHAT TIME you eat matters, too. Eating a healthy meal early in the day (**also known as breakfast!**) is linked to a lower risk of heart attack, while eating late at night before

going to bed is linked to a 55% higher

risk of heart disease. And **skipping breakfast entirely is linked to multiple risk factors for future heart problems**, including high blood pressure, elevated cholesterol, obesity, and diabetes. So when it comes to your eating habits, listen to your heart: **try to eat a healthy breakfast every day and avoid late night noshing!**

the big number

27

Research has shown that people who skip breakfast have a 27 percent higher risk of heart disease or a heart attack.

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

WELLNESS IS A WAY OF LIFE!

This newsletter is provided as a wellness resource by the Nutrition Services Department.

WELLNESS IS A WAY OF LIFE!

HELPING YOUR WHOLE FAMILY FEEL WELL AND DO WELL!

"TRUST YOUR HEART"

EAT BETTER

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

OATMEAL

The omega-3 fatty acids, fiber, magnesium, potassium, folate, niacin, and calcium in oatmeal truly do your heart good! Oatmeal's great with fruit for a hot morning meal, or in homemade cookies or snack bars with raisins as a hearty, healthy treat!



LIVE HEALTHIER

Want to make your heart jump for joy? Feed it right! The bulk of the food in a healthy diet should be simple and real -- fresh fruits, vegetables, and whole grains. If you like meat, keep it lean and keep the portions small. A little non-fat or low-fat dairy is fine, too. Even the occasional indulgence can be healthier -- dark chocolate, for instance. Generally, choose foods that are close to their natural state, with as little processing and as few hard-to-pronounce ingredients as possible.

Your heart will thank you!



PLAY HARDER



Aerobic exercises -- like walking, jogging, skipping rope, cycling (indoors or outdoors), cross-country skiing, skating, rowing, and low-impact aerobics or water aerobics -- are the best activities for heart health.

LEARN EASIER

The same aerobic exercise that's good for your heart has also been shown to be good for your brain. Recent studies have found a correlation between kids' aerobic fitness and their achievement in standardized math and reading tests. So don't just run for your heart's sake. Run for the sake of your brain -- and your future -- too!



First things First



BREAKFAST @SCHOOL



Featuring Healthy Fruits & Grains!

School Meals
We serve education every day!

Over the last two school years, we've put in place a number of changes to make our lunches and breakfasts (in schools that serve breakfast) even more nutritious for our customers. We'll continue to use the Wellness Newsletter this year to keep you posted on these changes!



DON'T 4GET!
Take at least **ONE** **FRUIT** or **VEGGIE** and at least **THREE** items total so your meal counts as a complete lunch!



School Meals
We serve education every day!

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.