Excellence in Education finalists

The district will honor more than 40 finalists for its Excellence in Education awards on Feb. 12 and announce top winners in the classified, teacher/nurse/library media teacher (certified) and administrator categories.

Finalists were nominated by their colleagues and then interviewed by panels made up of members of the Communications Department, district retirees, and community members. High school, middle school and elementary school certificated winners will be selected, along with classified and administrator winners. One certificated winner and the classified and administrator winners will advance to the county educator of the year awards.

The finalists are:

Classified:
Rufina Ayala, Jefferson Elementary School
Guillermo Berumen, English Learner Services
Brenda Jackson-Oliver, Health Services

See EDUCATION Continued on page 4

District Works with Families on Developing Proficient Readers

The district is boosting the reading skills of students with a new initiative that focuses on working with parents and their children from birth through third grade.

Using a $350,000 grant from First 5 Fresno County, Fresno Unified began piloting the program at Heaton and Slater elementary schools this school year, with more schools to follow.

Fresno Unified was among five districts selected to participate in Birth Through Third Grade Fresno County (B3), a collaboration of First 5, the Fresno County Office of Education, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, and Early Edge California. The goal is to significantly increase the percentage of students in Fresno County who can read proficiently by the third grade.

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Kindergarten teachers are learning more about building skills and understanding in the arts, and how it can help students better absorb math and language concepts.

All kindergarten teachers are attending arts integration workshops this school year that focus on specific state learning standards for music and dance. The sessions are also providing teachers with new ideas on how integrating music and dance education into their lesson plans can actually help students master math and English language arts Common Core State Standards. The workshops are preparing teachers for work they will do in the next school year.

Preschool teachers have already received extra training and are implementing what they learned this year. Figarden Elementary School preschool teacher Yvonne Stout-Barrett said she integrates music and movement throughout the day for her students.

“We use ribbon sticks to move to music and rhythm sticks to demonstrate awareness of steady beat and rhythm,” Stout-Barrett said.

The workshops are part of the Any Given Children initiative, a program of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts that seeks to increase affordable arts education for children kindergarten through eighth grade. In 2012, Fresno was selected as the 10th partner city for the Any Given Child initiative. The No. 1 goal of Fresno’s Any Given Child action plan is to increase professional learning opportunities in the arts, focusing on integrating the arts with Common Core State Standards.

“We all know that making music and dance brings joy and focus to young students, so what better way to help them learn than by incorporating performing arts into learning math and language?” said Allan Kristensen, visual/performing arts manager for the district. “I am really excited knowing that all of our kindergarten teachers will start the next school year equipped with great ideas and skills on how to integrate the arts.”

The training was provided by the Fresno County Office of Education, which is partnering with the district, the city of Fresno and the Kennedy Center.

Student Athletes Sign with Colleges

A number of Fresno Unified student athletes committed to universities during the fall signing period, including several to Fresno Pacific University. Additional signings are expected later this spring. Students signing earlier this school year were:

**Edison High School**
- Lyndsey Lopes, track, University of Southern California
- Lauren Davis, swimming, University of Pacific
- Alec DeMaria, baseball, University of Mary (Bismark, N.D.)

**Fresno High School**
- John Acosta, baseball, Fresno Pacific University
- Dez Harding, women’s basketball, Fresno Pacific University

**Hoover High School**
- Cameron Hendrix, swimming, Asbury University (Wilmore, Ky.)

**Sunnyside High School**
- Gabe Corona, baseball, Fresno Pacific University

**McLane Theater Presents “West Side Story”**

The McLane High School Theater Department will present “West Side Story” at 7:30 p.m. March 26-28 in the multipurpose room. Students are under the direction of new drama teacher Eric Day, a local actor and leader with the Woodward Shakespeare Festival. Tickets are $8 for general admission and $5 for students.
SUPERINTENDENT’S Message
(See Page 15 for Superintendent’s Message in Spanish and Hmong)

Fresno Unified continues to focus on:
• Strategic alignment of resources to move each and every student one academic grade level per year
• Equity and access for students in terms of programs and options
• Working to get the right people in the right place in the organization at the right time, and keeping them in Fresno Unified
• Time, which includes more time with an effective teacher as well as providing professional learning time for teachers

In schools and departments district-wide, we see these focus areas manifest themselves in a number of ways. It’s seen in our operations team as they support construction projects like the top-to-bottom renovation at Sequoia Middle School recently completed. The $7.5 million project remodeled 39 classrooms and the library and administration building. With the help of Measure Q dollars we are building a stronger environment for teaching and learning, investing in ALL district neighborhoods while helping the local economy by keeping your tax dollars here by employing local firms to do this important work.

Students, teachers and district staff returned to school following the winter break with renewed energy and resolve for the second half of the academic year, focused on learning and preparing our more than 73,000 students to be career ready. Our employees take very seriously the role they play each day in building a better learning community and know deeply the impact they have on daily student learning. Our School Quality Improvement Index, which outlines our accountability system under the Federal waiver, guides those efforts as we continue our work. This is an accountability system we had the good fortune to craft based on what is best for youth.

Message from Mayor Ashley Swearengin:
City and District Work Together for a Better Fresno

2015 is going to be a very exciting year for the City of Fresno with the groundbreaking of California’s high speed rail project, the anticipated Fulton Mall project, and the 2035 General Plan Update, which was recently approved by the City Council. Superintendent Michael Hanson was eloquent in announcing Fresno Unified’s support of the plan, and told Council that “concentrated work in communities is exactly the kind of concentrated work we do.”

Superintendent Hanson was also correct in urging city leaders to become more involved in the education and development of its students. The City of Fresno has jurisdiction over the state of our neighborhoods, and we’re committed to improve the quality of life in those neighborhoods, protect property values and promote investment in Fresno’s future.

We’re already off to a good start. Recently, the Any Given Child initiative just completed its first year of implementation by exceeding all expectations. Through this program, the City of Fresno, the Fresno Unified School District, the Fresno County Office of Education and the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts work together to promote arts education for all pre-k through eighth grade students. The City of Fresno celebrates the accomplishments of this initiative and we encourage teachers and administrators involved in this life-changing initiative to keep up the good work!

Our city government faces the same challenge as our city schools: the challenge of creating a 21st century economy and building the 21st century education system that can drive it. How we meet that challenge will define the success -- or failure -- of our community for generations to come.

This is a remarkable time in our city’s history. It’s been a time of having to grow increasingly uncomfortable with the status quo of high unemployment, high poverty, low educational attainment, and low income levels. It’s also been a time of economic recovery, stronger civic enforcement, improved educational standards and a promise of a brighter future for Fresno’s young and old.

Superintendent Hanson also said, “We need concentrated poverty with concentrated education.” I couldn’t agree more. We share a vision for better schools, better neighborhoods and a better Fresno.
Selena Rico, last year’s Educator of the Year classified winner for Fresno Unified, rose to the top in the county-wide competition as well.

Rico has the opportunity to compete for statewide recognition after being selected as the Fresno County school employee of the year Nov. 21 at an awards ceremony at the Saroyan Theatre. A top teacher and administrator were also selected from nominees from throughout the county.

Rico, a child welfare and attendance specialist, has shared how she experienced homelessness, domestic violence, teen pregnancy and tragedy as a young person and developed an instinct to root for the underdog and a special empathy for students and their families who may be struggling.

“I always try to help those who are overlooked, underserved and even rejected,” Rico said.

Rico said she was shocked to win the county award. She had actually urged her husband, Gilbert, to go with their sons to a football playoff game, but at the last minute he changed his mind to accompany her. At the awards dinner, they showed a video detailing some of Rico’s experiences growing up.

“At one point, I covered my face and said, ‘I can’t believe that happened to me.’ Having shared such personal details, I felt vulnerable and open to judgment. So when they announced me as the winner, I was so full of emotion on the inside, that on the outside it looked like calmness,” Rico said.

“What I felt was quite contrary. Honored, shocked and humbled and even terrified would describe it accurately.”

She said she is doing her best to live up to the high expectations she feels after winning the award.

“I also take more pride in my work,” Rico said. “I even encourage my newer colleagues about the work they do. What we do with families is important. But more than anything, this acknowledgement has motivated me to pursue my dreams. I’m going to be a social worker.”

Rico began attending classes at Fresno City College in January with plans to transfer to Fresno Pacific University or Fresno State to obtain her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in social work. She will be the first in her family to attend a university.

Selena Rico, Fresno County’s School Employee of the Year, works with Sosefina Lifite-Maiol, a fourth-grader at Williams Elementary School. Rico is a child welfare and attendance specialist for Fresno Unified.

...All Open To New Patients...

Kimpreet Aulakh, MD
Board Certified Internal Medicine
Located at Northwest Medical Group
4770 N Herndon Ave, Fresno
559-271-6304

Charles Hung, MD
Board Certified Internal Medicine
Located at CMP West Site
5715 N. West Ave #102, Fresno
559-438-0800

Wenjing Liu, MD, PhD
Board Certified Family Practice
Located at CMP Care Center South Suite
1570 E. Herndon, Fresno
(559) 437-7311

Luis Martinez, MD
Board Certified Family Practice
Located at CMP Care Center North Suite
1570 E. Herndon, Fresno
(559) 437-7380

Rowena Murthy, MD
Board Certified Internal Medicine

Educational Institutions

Continued from page 1

Donald Juvet,
Powers-Ginsburg Elementary School
Anne Leedy,
Hoover High School
Joyce Lundy,
Powers-Ginsburg Elementary School
Asia Mackertichian,
State and Federal Programs
Maria Moreno,
Anthony Elementary School
Sandy Sarkisian, Sunnyside High School
Mary Wilkinson, Fresno Adult School

Teacher/nurse/library
media teacher:
Lisa Agao, Adult Education
Heidi Braswell, Sequoia Middle School
Carmen Cruz,
Vang Pao Elementary School
Angela Dryden,
Heaton Elementary School
David Harris, Tenaya Middle School
Duran Garcia, Sunnyside High School
Lourdes Gonzalez,
Webster Elementary School
Cindy Jimenez,
Scandinavian Middle School
Rob Kuzminski,
Easterby Elementary School
Zer Lee, Fresno Adult School
Carolyn McGaugh,
Gaston Middle School

Administrator:
Sarah Belt, Holland Elementary School
Raine Bumatay, Fresno Adult School
Sue Fuentes,
Bullard TALENT K-8 School
Melissa Dutra, Dailey Elementary Charter School
Darrin Person,
Prevention and Intervention
Lynn Rocha Salazar,
Ayer Elementary School
Ermelinda Sanchez,
Aynesworth Elementary School
Tim Liles, Sunnyside High School
Kay Vang, Heaton Elementary School
Pang Vangyi, Fresno Adult School

Julianne McSherry-Medcalf,
Homant Elementary School
Tori Nolen, Hoover High School
Tom Nixon, Curriculum and Professional Development
Richard Perez, Sequoia Middle School
Lersak Pongluelert,
Calwa Elementary School
Phil Puente, Fresno Adult School
Lori Rolf, Wawona Middle School
Robyn Smith, Lori Ann Infant Center
Cindy Yates,
Norseman Elementary School
Carol Yohannes, Sequoia Middle School
Maria Ysabel Oliva, Hoover High School
Bi Vang,
Anthony Elementary School
Listen up: Tips for Parents from District Expert to Get Kids Talking

Ambra Dorsey, the district’s executive director of prevention and intervention, offers tips for parents to encourage better communication and conversation with their children. Recognize that different family members have different communication styles.

- Parents react in different ways — passive, neutral, and sometimes aggressive. Parents who tend to use the “silent” treatment should try instead to keep conversation flowing. Instead of yelling, try to stay calm (which can be tough at the end of a long day).
- Pay attention to how children handle conflict. Kids that storm off during a disagreement require a different approach than those who are agreeable. Siblings within the same family often have very different communication styles.

Try a conversation starter.
- What was the best part of your day? What was the most challenging part of your day? If you could have one wish, what would it be?

Timing is everything.
- To keep the lines of communication open, talk about the “every day stuff” every day.
- Create time for talking. Meal time is ideal, but with hectic schedules there may not be a regular opportunity to sit down for dinner. Get creative. Driving the teenagers to a party or home from practice? Shut off the radio. At home, shut off the TV and create time for talking. Children are often more likely to open up during an activity, such as a board game.
- Tough conversations, especially with teens, require extra planning and privacy. Remember that certain topics are best discussed in a private setting, and not at the dinner table.

Practice active listening.
- Recognize and respect when children don’t want to talk, but when they do want to talk, be ready!
- Lives are busy and it is tempting tomulti-task and chat with kids while texting, emailing or surfing the web. Put down the phone and pay attention.
- Listen for more than words. Teenagers’ body language and tone can often paint a better picture of how they are feeling than the words they say.
- Be honest.
- Growing up is challenging, and kids ask some tough questions. It’s OK not to have all the answers, but honesty is essential. Parents should head to the Internet or a book if necessary if they are unfamiliar with a topic.
- Be patient and don’t freak out.
- Communication with teenagers can be especially challenging. Many teens are not comfortable discussing issues with their parents because it will make them “freak out.” It’s OK to freak out on the inside while discussing an upsetting topic, but stay calm on the outside. Listen closely and ask questions to gain a better understanding.

Common Core State Standards Questions Answered

With a full year of training and implementation under their belts, teachers in Fresno Unified School District have hit the ground running this school year with the Common Core State Standards. Following is a list of frequently asked questions about Common Core.

What are Common Core State Standards?

They are a revised set of educational standards that include rigorous content and skills, are research-based, and are aligned with college and work expectations. They provide opportunities for students to think critically and apply what they learn to complete real-world tasks.

Why are they referred to as Common Core?

Common refers to having consistency across all states and core refers to a foundational set of standards.

Were teachers involved in the creation of the standards?

Yes. Teachers across the nation have been a critical voice in the development of the standards by providing specific, constructive feedback.

What are the benefits of the Common Core State Standards?

They will better prepare students for college and global work success because they are aligned to international standards. Students will develop higher level thinking skills and will learn how to use them together to solve real-world problems. Rather than assessing students’ ability to recall facts, Common Core helps determine their ability to reason, analyze, and think critically, thus providing a much more clear understanding of what students can do. Common Core will also help improve teacher collaboration because it will allow educators to share aligned information and resources nationwide.

What grade levels are included in the Common Core State Standards?

Mathematics standards are for grades K-12. The English language arts/literacy standards are grades K-5, and English language arts and literacy in history and social studies, science, and technical subjects standards are for grades 6-12.

How will students be assessed?

New assessments, developed by the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium, will be implemented this school year. Students take the new assessments online and they will assess research, writing, and analytical skills. Sample test items can be viewed at www.smarterbalanced.org/sample-items-and-performance-tasks.
King Elementary Teacher Works with Community Groups to Benefit Students

Monica Baker is a transitional kindergarten teacher at King Elementary School. Every year, she helps coordinate donation drives with community organizations to support the needs of students at King. She has helped to obtain shoes, jackets and toys for the students, as well as anti-bullying shirts.

How long have you taught at King Elementary and what is your background?
I was hired in January of 1999 to teach kindergarten at MLK.

How did you get into teaching?
I have wanted to be a teacher since first grade.

You help obtain shoes, jackets and toys for children in need. Tell me about this work and how you began doing it.
I was raised in a family that values service and I have worked with many service organizations in Fresno County. By working with members of the Fresno community we have been able to meet some of the many needs at King.

What are the greatest needs for students in Fresno Unified?
All students need to truly be and feel successful.

You teach TK. How is this new grade helping early learners?
TK is developmentally appropriate for students and gives them the gift of time.

What is the hardest part of your job?
Time. There is not enough time to do everything I need and want to do for my students.

What do you enjoy the most about your job?
I love laying the foundation for my students as lifelong learners and sharing their joy in learning.

Anthony Elementary Food Technician Nourishes Students’ Souls

Maria Moreno’s job title at Anthony Elementary School is “food services technician,” but Principal Joy Nunes says Moreno does far more than prepare and serve lunch to students. She notices if a student is having a rough day, and takes time to talk with them or find an adult who can help. She offers incentives, such as being a cafeteria helper, for students struggling with behavior issues. And she is the school’s soccer coach! Nunes has nominated Moreno for an Educator of the Year award in the classified category. (Winners will be announced at a dinner Feb. 12.)

What motivates you to reach out to students, beyond the normal job expectations?
Feeling like I am making a difference in their lives makes me work hard and do anything I can to feed them and go beyond what my job is. The conversations I have with them make me forget everything bad in my day. These children all have a whole world full of beautiful things. All we have to do is listen.

How did you come to be Anthony’s soccer coach?
I became aware of the opportunity through an email sent out by our principal, Mrs. Nunes, and also talking to the after-school coordinator. I love soccer, I play it and have coached it. I love the kids so I thought to myself, what a perfect opportunity and went for it.

What is the hardest part of your job?
The hardest part is hearing from students when they are having problems at home or I see them crying. That makes me very sad, and also that we are not allowed to give any children food who are not students at Anthony.

What is the most popular food item at Anthony?
Pepperoni pizza!

If you could serve any food to your students, what would it be?
I would have to say tacos. All kids love tacos.

What is your dream job?
My dream job would be to continue working and interacting with children at a higher supervising level where I can make a bigger impact and help bring new ideas to the table about our food program.

What’s one thing most people don’t know about you?
I play soccer and I am 41 years old. And that I make beautiful flower arrangements.
Kevin Concannon, a top official with the USDA, visited Computech Middle School and the district’s Nutrition Center Dec. 9 to learn more about how the federally funded Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) program has increased the number of students taking advantage of healthy school meals in Fresno Unified.

The CEP program has allowed Fresno Unified to offer breakfast and lunch this school year at no charge to all students regardless of income levels. The policy change has reduced burdens for both families and school administrators and helped ensure that all students receive nutritious meals.

Under CEP, the district is serving 1,131 more breakfasts and 1,992 more lunches every day compared to last year. The increase in meals served each day is the equivalent to feeding one additional high school. Fresno Unified serves 93,374 meals each day, including breakfast, lunch, and snacks.

Concannon, under secretary for Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services, announced during his visit that more than half of high-poverty districts across the country are offering free breakfast and lunch through the provision. This is the first year districts in California have had the opportunity to participate in the CEP, which was successfully piloted in numerous parts of the country.

**District Wins Communications Awards**

Fresno Unified won six statewide awards for excellence in communications through the California School Public Relations Association and was recognized during the association’s annual seminar Jan. 15-17.

The awards program recognizes the successful efforts of education agencies and communication professionals in producing materials and services that meet the information needs of communities. This year, districts and education agencies submitted 68 entries in 10 categories with 21 Awards of Excellence and 26 Awards of Merit winners. School public relations professionals from the state of New York judged entries.

Fresno Unified, with entries submitted by the Communications Office, won Awards of Excellence for a video on Cambridge High School’s student-run silk screening shop, a video on the 2014 Fresno Unified Scholarship Fund winners, and a photo of preschoolers at Vang Pao Elementary School. The district won Awards of Merit for the Building Futures newspaper, the weekly Employee Zone electronic newsletter, and a poster on district goals.

**EduText Provides Updates on Student Progress**

- **What:** Daily text updates on grades and attendance for parents with students in grades 2-12.
- **Why:** Engages parents and provides opportunity for healthy conversations around academics.
- **How:** Locate EduText parent PIN on your child’s progress report, report card, ATLAS parent portal or through the school office. Text parent PIN to 28527 (ATLAS). For families with multiple Fresno Unified students, text 28527 (ATLAS) separately for each EduText parent PIN.
- **Learn more:** EduText resources available on www.fresnounified.org under Parents tab, including a video and helpful tips for talking to students about grades.
- **Go deeper:** More details on students’ academic progress available using the ATLAS parent portal under Parents tab at www.fresnounified.org.

Kevin Concannon, under secretary for the USDA Food, Nutrition and Consumer Services, during his visit Dec. 9 to the school, with Principal Andrew Scherrr in the background.

**Are you pregnant or have children under 5? You may qualify for WIC!**

**Our no-cost services include:**
- Healthy foods
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**Five locations to serve you**

- Downtown Fulton Mall
- Kings Canyon & Willow
- Shaw & 9th
- Ashlan & West

Monday-Friday 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM
Saturday/extended hours vary by location
Kids Invent! Encourages "Ah Ha!" Moments for District Fifth Graders

Fifth graders throughout the district are learning to be more creative and better critical thinkers by participating in fun lessons through a new program, Kids Invent!

Projects have included building towers with straws and other ordinary items and ramps for racing cars. The hands-on projects encourage math, science, and engineering skills as well as entrepreneurship.

Through a partnership with the Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship at Fresno State, fifth grade teachers periodically receive a box of Kids Invent! materials with lesson plans and resources to complete the project.

“The program is so well organized it would change a teacher’s perspective on teaching science,” said Holland Elementary School fifth-grade teacher Jeanne White. “The kids know when the Kids Invent! shipment comes in, and ask immediately what project they will be doing next.”

Another teacher, Sarah Gargan at Ewing Elementary School, said Kids Invent! is designed to encourage students to think on their own.

“My homeroom is having a blast creating towers. The only directions I gave were ‘Build the tallest tower you can without standing on a chair or a table,’” Gargan said.

Board Sustainability Subcommittee’s Message

Kids Invent! Prepares Career Ready Graduates

One of the Board of Education’s core beliefs is that “every student can and must learn at grade level and beyond.” This means creating the conditions where every student is valued and has the best learning conditions possible for his/her individual development. This involves a combination of classroom and real world experiences. The Board Sustainability Subcommittee has been excited to watch the Common Core State Standards implementation because this is one way to integrate academic and career objectives.

Fresno Unified’s overall goal is to prepare students to be career ready graduates. Whether it’s the traditional classroom setting or offering a program that targets a group of students, how that goal is reached can come in a variety of ways.

In August 2014, the Board of Education took a bold step to help students become career ready graduates when it approved a contract to implement Kids Invent!, a program offered by the Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship at California State University, Fresno.

The approved contract provides a weekly hands-on educational program designed to engage all Fresno Unified fifth grade students in the subjects of science, engineering and entrepreneurship by using a unique lesson plan of creative and innovative activities. As defined in the board’s theory of action, “all students will be supported in reaching their individual educational goals. Each and every student will learn to the same standards, but when necessary, reach them using differentiated time, resources, and approaches.” This unique approach ensures that students gain a unique understanding of business through a real life experience.

Kids Invent! weekly activities have ranged from boomerangs to solar powered boats and incorporate the appropriate Next Generation Science Standards. For example, Bullard TALENT K-8 School fifth grade students recently learned a lesson in critical thinking by creating their own gravity cars with cardboard, masking tape, straws, wheels, and wooden dowels. Students sent their cars down a ramp to determine if their engineering, design, and problem solving was effective. Kids Invent! in the district ends in June with a certificate of completion for every student that participated in the program.

Kids Invent! implementation can’t be achieved without our teachers. Nearly 70 fifth grade teachers have received training and on-going instructor classroom support in order for this program to be effective. Teachers also received access to videoed curricula manuals by Dr. Ed Sobey, co-creator of the Kids Invent! program and founding director of the National Inventors Hall of Fame, to ensure lessons are effectively communicated to fifth grade students.

All curricula has been reviewed in collaboration with Fresno Unified’s Special Education Department to guarantee accessibility for all students. The Lyles Center will conduct a specialized assessment incorporating data collection and performance evaluations to gauge the success of this project.

Kids Invent! is yet another example of the board’s core belief that “educational excellence and equity are expected and collaborative adult relationships are essential.” This program provides an opportunity to accelerate student achievement and create the conditions of high quality learning for all students regardless of their current reality. In addition, the program directly supports the district dashboard and the school quality overarching theme to close the achievement gap and ensure all students graduate Fresno Unified college and career ready. It starts early.

The Board Sustainability Subcommittee engages civic partners, provides an “on boarding” process for potential board members, and identifies additional board policy work to accelerate student achievement and engage community stakeholders.
District Wins Accolades from California School Boards Association

Fresno Unified’s Men’s Alliance and Women’s Alliance programs and Parent University have won Golden Bell Awards from the California School Boards Association.

Parent University received an additional $1,000 prize for its exceptional work with parents and the community. Coordinators of the two award-winning programs, school board members and Superintendent Michael Hanson attended the Dec. 16 awards ceremony in San Francisco.

The Golden Bell Awards promote excellence in education and school board governance by recognizing outstanding programs and school board practices. Fresno Unified competed against nearly 250 submissions highlighting best practices in education in the areas of operations, instruction and support services.

Men’s Alliance was initially created in 2009 in response to the increased rate of young male students suspended and expelled. Both the Men’s Alliance and Women’s Alliance programs offer mentoring to students and help develop personal behavior and academic skills that will lead to success in the classroom, career and throughout the students’ lives. Students involved in the program take part in specific elective courses, are expected to dress in professional attire, behave appropriately, and maintain a 2.0 GPA or higher.

In exchange, the program offers opportunities to attend cultural enrichment field trips, college tours and help develop career readiness skills and job placement all while providing additional supports for maintaining academic and personal success.

With student achievement at the core of its work, Parent University embarks daily on parent and community engagement. Since the fall of 2010, more than 15,493 parents have graduated from Parent University better prepared to navigate their child’s academic career.

The program, which has also been adopted by Long Beach Unified School District and Mendota Unified School District, provides learning opportunities for parents in their native language in such areas as constituent services, financial literacy, monitoring student progress, physical and cognitive development, state standards, attendance, supporting students with special needs, and parent sustainability action plans. Parent University equips parents to not only be their child’s first teacher, but also their first advocate and supporter in their academic career.

El Distrito Recibe Galardón de la Asociación de Mesas Educativas de California

Los programas de Men’s Alliance y Women’s Alliance del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno y la Universidad para Padres han recibido el Premio de la “Golden Bell” (Campana Dorada) de la Asociación del Mesas Educativas de California.

La Universidad para Padres recibió un premio adicional por $1,000 por su trabajo excepcional con los padres y la comunidad. Los coordinadores de los dos programas ganadores, miembros de la mesa de educación y el Superintendente Michael Hanson asistieron al pasado 16 de diciembre a la ceremonia de premiación en San Francisco.

El premio de la Golden Bell promueve la excelencia en educación y la gobernanza de las mesas de educación, reconociendo los programas destacados y prácticas de la mesa educativa. El Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno compitió contra cerca de 250 propuestas sometidas resaltando las mejores prácticas en educación en las áreas de operaciones, instrucción y servicios de apoyo.

Inicialmente, la Men’s Alliance fue creada en el 2009 en respuesta al incremento del índice de estudiantes jóvenes hombres suspendidos y expulsados. Ambos programas, la Men’s Alliance y la Women’s Alliance, ofrecen mentoría a estudiantes y ayudan al desarrollo de las destrezas del comportamiento personal y académico que conducen al éxito en el salón de clase, en sus carreras y a lo largo de las vidas de los estudiantes. Los estudiantes involucrados en el
Holland and Kochi Students Rekindle Friendship

Students at Holland Elementary School have renewed a friendship with an elementary school in Kochi, Japan as the two schools mark the 50th anniversary of their connection.

Enokuchi Elementary School in Kochi and Holland Elementary are rekindling a school partnership that began in 1965 as part of the city of Fresno’s Sister Cities program.

With the help of retired Fresno Unified principal Don Beauregard, the schools exchanged mementos last fall when Beauregard visited Kochi as part of a Sister Cities delegation. Holland students sent a handmade book reflecting life at Holland School and Enokuchi students sent various souvenirs back with him.

A Kochi delegation is expected to visit Holland this year. In the past, Fresno sent young people to stay with host families in Kochi for visits and Kochi would do the same, giving students an opportunity to learn about a different culture. Funding for the student exchanges dried up, Beauregard said, but students at Holland are once again learning about their peers around the world in Japan.

Holland Principal Deborah Marquez said renewing the relationship with the students at Enokuchi has expanded students’ world view. Many students at Holland have not had the opportunity to travel beyond the Fresno region, making the cultural exchange even more enlightening, she said. The school may develop a club focused on connecting with students in Kochi.

“It’s about learning that there are people outside your little world,” Marquez said.

Third-grade reading proficiency is widely recognized as an important predictor of whether a child will graduate from high school, obtain a higher paying job, not enter the criminal justice system, and break the cycle of poverty.

“Improving third-grade reading proficiency rates has to start long before third grade and involve community support for parents and children,” said Wilma Hashimoto, the district’s assistant superintendent for early learning.

The district’s efforts to increase reading readiness and proficiency include an innovative partnership between the Early Learning Department, Heaton staff, and the Fresno Housing Authority to offer monthly literacy workshops and activities for both the parents and children living at the Parc Grove housing complex.

Hashimoto said language and literacy development starts at birth, with studies showing that brain development begins in the first three years from birth.

“We encourage parents to talk to their children often throughout the day by asking them to identify objects while riding in the car, talk about colors at the grocery store or talk about the plans for the day,” Hashimoto said. “A child who has an early foundation in reading is more likely to be a successful reader by third grade, and a key factor in reading readiness is for parents and actually all members of our community to promote talking, reading and singing with children.”

Districts involved in B3 have access to grant funding, best-practices and subject-matter experts as well as coaching and technical assistance.

El Distrito Trabaja con Familias en el Desarrollo de Lectores Proficientes

El distrito está impulsando las destrezas de la lectura de los estudiantes con una nueva iniciativa que se enfoca en el trabajo con los padres y sus niños desde su nacimiento hasta el tercer grado.

Con un presupuesto de $350,000 otorgado por los Primeros 5 (First 5) del Condado, el Distrito Escolar Unificado empezó el programa piloto en las escuelas primarias Heaton y Slater este año escolar, con más escuelas que le seguirán.

El Distrito Escolar de Fresno está entre los cinco distritos seleccionados para participar en el programa Desde el Nacimiento hasta el Tercer Grado del Condado de Fresno (B3), una colaboración con los Primeros 5, la Oficina de Educación del Condado de Fresno, la Fundación de David y Lucile Packard y Ventaja Temprana de California. La meta es la de incrementar significativamente el porcentaje de estudiantes en el Condado de Fresno que pueden leer proficuentemente para el tercer grado.

Es ampliamente reconocido que la lectura proficiente para el tercer grado es un importante indicador de si un niño(a) se graduará de la escuela preparatoria, obtendrá un trabajo con un salario alto, no entrará en el sistema de justicia criminal y romperá el círculo de pobreza.

“El mejoramiento de los indices de proficiencia de la lectura para el tercer grado tiene que empezar mucho antes del tercer grado e incluir el apoyo comunitario para los padres y niños,” dijo Wilma Hashimoto, la asistente del Superintendente del distrito de educación temprana.

Los esfuerzos del distrito para incrementar la preparación para la lectura y la proficiencia incluyen una innovadora sociedad entre el Departamento de Educación Temprana, el personal de Heaton y Autoridades de la Vivienda de Fresno para ofrecer talleres mensuales de lectoescritura y actividades para ambos padres y niños que viven en el complejo habitacional Parc Grove.

Hashimoto dijo que el lenguaje y el desarrollo de la lectoescritura empiezan al nacer, con estudios que muestran un aumento en el desarrollo del cerebro cuando hablamos más palabras a los niños desde su nacimiento a los tres años de edad.

“Motivamos a los padres a hablarles a sus niños frecuentemente durante el día pidiéndoles que identifiquen objetos mientras que viajan en el carro, hablar acerca de los colores en la tienda de abarrotes o platicar acerca de los planes

See PROFICIENT READERS Continued on page 16
The district wrapped up work at Sequoia Middle School during the winter break to complete a $7.5 million project at the campus that included renovating 39 classrooms and rebuilding the library and administration building.

The school also has a new entrance and new front landscaping and marquee as part of the renovation, which is among $200 million in Measure Q projects completed or underway throughout Fresno Unified.

The community overwhelmingly passed the $280 million Measure Q local school bond in November 2010, providing better teaching and learning environments, a boost to the local economy, and reinvestment in Fresno neighborhoods.

“This project has created a new look for our school and transformed and modernized our classrooms so that our students and teachers can do their best work,” said Principal Matt Ward. “The students also love the new spaces for dance, choir and band.”

Sequoia’s classroom improvements include new lighting, flooring, wall finishes, projectors and speakers, and Internet (wired and wireless). Ample built-in storage and counter space was added, along with new furniture. Every classroom had a complete makeover except for those in Building Q, which had been upgraded previously and received minor work during this most recent project.

The project also included creating six new science classrooms and making over two large rooms, one to house the afterschool program and one to use primarily for staff training and collaboration and special teaching needs. The restrooms were also redone, and the health clinic was modernized. One of the most popular improvements was the combining of two classrooms to create a dance studio.

“It is a big hit at Sequoia,” said Nancy Anderson, project manager.

A new music/band room was also created, with a connecting room for additional instrument storage.

The project also included new fire protection system, intrusion system, HVAC controls system, and public address system, and replacement of the site electrical service. The multipurpose room was upgraded with new wall finishes, air conditioning, a stained concrete floor, new stage drapery, new cafeteria tables, and new serving windows. The staff lounge was also modernized. The majority of the concrete on the site was replaced to meet ADA requirements and all the old lockers, covered with plywood and lining the corridors, were removed and walls re-plastered.

The contractor that performed the work, Zumwalt Construction, completed the job ahead of schedule, with students and teachers able to return to classrooms six months early.

Measure Q projects around the district under construction or soon to begin construction include:

- Baird Middle School: Construction on gym underway; planning underway for a classroom building.
- Bullard High School: Construction underway on new classroom building on the south side of the campus; future phases of the project include an additional classroom building on the north side, new administration building along Palm Avenue, expanded library/career center, and improved quad area.
- Former DeWolf campus: Construction is underway on a new classroom building and renovation of multipurpose building.
- McLane High School: Construction underway on a new classroom building.
Pediatrician Promotes Health Habits for New Year

By Lorraine Lopez, MD
Pediatrician at Kaiser Permanente Fresno

With a new year upon us, it’s a good time to think about the changes we can help our children make in 2015 that will promote health and establish healthy habits to last a lifetime.

Whether it’s incorporating more fruits and vegetables into their meals or limiting the amount of time they spend in front of the television, encouraging your children to develop healthy habits now can make a huge difference later in life.

Children and teens who are overweight are more likely to become overweight adults. And they are more likely to face chronic health conditions in adulthood including heart disease, high blood pressure and diabetes.

Children today may even be on track to have shorter life spans than their parents.

That’s why I encourage the children, and the families, I care for at Kaiser Permanente Fresno to make lifestyle changes that they can carry into adulthood. These don’t have to be major changes in diet or exercise patterns. Even small modifications, like taking a family walk in the early evening or cutting out sources of caffeine, which can interfere with sleep, can start your children on a path toward better health.

Writing out goals may help your children feel more invested in the idea of making healthy changes this year. Work together on a list they can follow. Be realistic and don’t make lofty goals that will be unattainable.

Here are a few ideas to get you started:

Rethink your drink
It may be too easy for your children to reach into the refrigerator and grab a soda or juice box. But did you know that soda is the top source of sugar in the American diet? Many carbonated beverages also contain caffeine. So, make it just as easy for them to grab a pitcher of water with some slices of fresh strawberries, oranges, limes or cucumber for a boost of flavor.

Limit screen time to two hours a day
A lot of children spend more time in front of a screen than they do talking with family and friends or playing outside. Too much screen time is associated with bad behavior, poor school performance, lower reading scores, being overweight and bad habits later in life. Encourage your children to turn off their screens during family meals -- no phones allowed at the dinner table. Don’t use screen time as a reward, and take their portable electronics out of their rooms at night. Suggest they read a good book instead.

Lots of activity and plenty of rest
Children as young as preschool age benefit from exercise as much as adults do. Starting at age six, children should get at least one hour of moderate exercise a day. It’s alright to split up the one hour into smaller increments of activity throughout the day -- as long as they’re doing something to get their hearts pumping and bodies moving.

Equally as important is making sure they are getting an adequate amount of sleep each night. Children may have trouble learning and developing socially if they aren’t getting enough sleep. Make sure your children have at least eight hours of sleep each night. Encouraging children to go to bed at the same time each night will help them develop a good sleep routine.

Make healthy meals at home
With many parents juggling full-time jobs along with busy home lives, it’s not easy to prepare meals at home. But avoiding those fast-food meals will definitely benefit your children’s health in the long run. Some simple changes can make it easier for you and your children to make healthy foods at home. Write out a weekly menu and shop for the groceries you need ahead of time. Pick up locally-grown fruits and vegetables at a farmers market, which can make for great snacks (Kaiser Permanente Fresno has a farmers market every Wednesday in front of the medical center, 7300 N. Fresno St.). Involve your children in the meal planning and cooking. Make more food than you need for one meal, so you have leftovers for lunches the next day. Eating at home allows you to control the portion sizes and ingredients -- and saves money, too! For healthy recipe ideas visit Kaiser Permanente’s Food For Health blog: https://foodforhealth.kaiserpermanente.org/.

Kings Canyon Middle School is one of seven schools in California named recently to the Schools to Watch-Taking Center Stage program, joining an elite group of 66 middle schools from more than 1,300 middle and junior high schools in the state.

Schools to Watch middle schools are high-performing model schools that demonstrate academic excellence, developmental responsiveness to the needs and interests of young people, social equity, and organizational support. The schools host visitors from California and around the world who are looking for replicable practices to help them improve their middle grades schools and close the achievement gap.

“It’s really a great honor and I’m extremely proud of the hard work and dedication of our staff,” said Principal Edith Navarro. “I am extremely proud of the hard work and dedication of our staff.”

To be named a Schools to Watch model, the school must first have shown evidence of making healthy changes this year. Work together on a list they can follow. Be realistic and don’t make lofty goals that will be unattainable.

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“This Schools to Watch designation is a tremendous honor to be selected as a continuing demonstration school, and we are proud of our AVID program and our school as a whole,” Martinez said. “The use of AVID strategies school wide has positively impacted students and staff, and we continue to see a more engaged and college-ready student body.”

AVID Chief Executive Officer Sandy Husk noted the significance of attaining demonstration site status.

“Schools chosen as demonstration sites have proven their ability to successfully implement the AVID academic elective course and take the strategies school wide to impact all students,” Husk said.

With AVID’s proven methodologies used throughout subject area classes, performance levels improve for all students, but especially for those students who are the least likely to attend four-year colleges. Schools from around the world that are preparing to implement the AVID system will visit Demonstration Schools, such as Baird’s, to observe a highly evolved AVID system.

AVID is implemented in more than 4,900 schools in 45 states, the District of Columbia, and 16 countries/territories and impacts more than 700,000 students in grades K-12 and 41 post-secondary institutions.
Manchester GATE Students Pass on Kindness

Students from Manchester GATE Elementary School made quite an impression on staff and visitors at the Los Angeles Holocaust Museum as they shared the Human Element kindness campaign message. The Human Element is a district wide, student-driven anti-bullying effort. Before teacher Hilary Levine’s fifth-grade students left for an annual Southern California field trip, leadership students from Fresno High School met with them to help prepare them to relay the Human Element message. Students went on the December field trip armed with Kindness is Our Weapon of Choice bracelets.

At the Holocaust Museum, the students’ visit included meeting with a child Holocaust survivor, Michelle Rodri, who explained to them their responsibility to make sure that atrocities such as the Holocaust do not continue to happen. This gave the students an opportunity to talk about the Human Element and give Rodri two bracelets. Students then approached museum visitors and spoke with them about the Human Element and passed out bracelets.

Levine received a letter from the museum following the Dec. 4-5 trip conveying the impact the students had on the museum staff. The letter from education programs manager Jordanna Gessler said in part: “I just wanted to take a moment and let you know how incredible our experience was with hosting your class on Friday. For the rest of the work day, there was a joyous and uplifting sentiment permeating throughout the museum, which was definitely inspired by your students and their dedication to furthering acts of kindness. The atmosphere was indescribable, and I know that I personally went home and told many people about the unusual day at work.”

**Assoc. Superintendent, Pediatrician Team to Promote Kindness and Literacy**

Rosario Sanchez, associate superintendent of curriculum and instruction, and Dr. Casey Gray, a pediatrician at Kaiser Permanente Fresno, visited fourth graders at Easterby Elementary School Jan. 22 to promote kindness and literacy, reading the book “Have You Filled Your Bucket Today?” The book is designed to get students thinking about their own feelings and those of others and make students more aware of how their choices can make a difference. This is the fifth year Kaiser Permanente has partnered with a local school district to promote reading as an essential part of a child’s healthy development as part of its national Reach Out and Read Program. Reach Out and Read is designed to promote early literacy, school readiness, and positive outcomes for all children.

**Guest Readers at King Elementary Help Honor Martin Luther King, Jr.**

In honor of the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., community members read books with an MLK theme to students at King Elementary School on Jan. 15. Guest readers included Police Chief Jerry Dyer, District Attorney Lisa Smittcamp, Fresno Unified Board President Cal Johnson, military personnel, Fresno State staff, and other community members. After reading to students, guest readers donated the books to the classroom libraries. In the days leading up to the guest readings, students read, discussed, and wrote about the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Activities concluded with every student in grades 1-6 writing an informative essay about what they learned. The best essays from each classroom were entered into a school-wide essay contest.

**District Departments Donate Coats to Students in Need**

The Special Education Department dominated The Great Winter Holiday Coat Challenge for the fourth year in a row, donating the most coats to students in need during the friendly competition between district departments that brought in a total of 198 coats. Employees gathered Dec. 18 for the Golden Stapler trophy presentation. The coats were donated to Project ACCESS, which serves the district’s homeless and foster-care students.

**ACCOLADES Continued from page 9**

programa toman parte en cursos específicos electivos y se espera que aprendan a vestirse con un atuendo profesional, que se comporten apropiadamente y mantengan un promedio de aprovechamiento académico (GPA) de 2.0 a más alto.

A cambio, el programa ofrece oportunidades para asistir a viajes de estudios de enriquecimiento cultural, visitas guiadas a los colegios y universidades y ayuda en el desarrollo de las destrezas de preparación para una carrera y colocación de empleo, todo mientras se proveen apoyos anuales para mantener el éxito académico y personal.

Con el aprovechamiento educativo como centro de su trabajo, la Universidad para Padres se embarca diariamente en compromisos con los padres y la comunidad. Desde el otoño del 2010, más de 15,493 padres se han graduido de la Universidad para Padres, estando mejor preparados para navegar la carrera académica de sus niños.

El programa el cual también ha sido adoptado por el Distrito Escolar Unificado de Long Beach y el Distrito Escolar Unificado de Mendota, provee oportunidades de aprendizaje para los padres en su idioma natal en áreas tales como servicios para el constituyente, conocimiento financiero, monitoreo del progreso estudiantil, desarrollo físico y cognoscitivo, estándares estatales, asistencia, apoyo a estudiantes con necesidades especiales y planes de acciones de sustentabilidad para padres. La Universidad para Padres equipa a los padres a no sólo ser los primeros maestros de sus niños, sino también, los primeros abogados y partidarios en el apoyo en su carrera académica.

**Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv Yeej Qhov Accolades Los Ntawm California School Boards Association**


Parent University tau txais $1,000,000 txog kev ua haujhwj pab niam txiv thiab zej zog. Cov thawj coj ntawm ob qhov kev pab no nrog ru cov neeg saab laaj thiab tug thawj coj cov tsev kawm ntawv Michael Hanson tau mus koom qhov kev muabntawv pov thawj thiab txais khoom plig tham lub Kaum Ob Hlis Tim 16 nyoob rau toom San Francisco.

It is possible that some content is not in English and requires translation.
Fresno High Student Leader Relishes Role, Urges Involvement

By Angela Romero
Fresno High School
ASB President

The process of becoming a Fresno Unified board representative started off with the support of teachers and friends. Although I was a triathlete by my sophomore year, I wanted to be remembered by more than just a statistic.

As a student at historic Fresno High School, there were countless opportunities for me to be known in the school and remembered on campus long after I graduate. With that in mind, I decided to become involved with my school’s leadership class.

I had a goal in mind, to become ASB president by my senior year, and I made sure everyone around me knew. Once I had the position, I knew I could continue on to bigger and better things. One of those things was the Student Advisory Board (SAB), which I was introduced to at the end of my sophomore year by that year’s current ASB president and by my campus culture director, Melissa Bangert. If it weren’t for her and my friends’ constant support, I wouldn’t be where I am now.

I feel that by being a part of the Fresno Unified School Board and by being a part of SAB’s Human Element, I have a say in what goes on in our schools/community and in the future generations of students. I know and experience things that most others my age unfortunately do not have the chance to experience. For that, I’m extremely thankful for everyone who has allowed me to be in this position, including all SAB members/teachers, and I’m also extremely thankful for the board for everything that they do to help improve our schools.

I would urge all students to find a way to get involved in their campuses, whether it’s through sports, clubs, tutoring others, or student leadership. It will make your time in school much more interesting, and maybe even expand your circle of friends. Let your campus culture director know you want to get involved!

Designation
Continued from page 12

Academic growth using the state accountability system, California Standards Test, during the years 2007-2014. School administrators and teaching staff also conducted a self-study evaluation and completed an extensive narrative application.

The application addressed past and current programs at the school site that support all learners at a high level. Each site was reviewed by a team of middle school experts from across the state of California. To retain the designation, each school is re-evaluated every three years.

Designation
Continued from page 13

Continued from page 13

Kawn tau ntawv zoo nyob hauv tsev kawn ntawv thiaj yuav npaj li cas rau lawv lub neej tom ntje. Cov tub nthxais nyob rau hauv qhov kev pab no yuav tsum tau kawn txog kev hna v hkaub ncaws zoo, mloog lus thiaj tau qhab nias 2.0 GPG losyog siab tshaj.

Nyob rau hauv qhov kev pab no yog cia kom muaj kev mus kawn txog lwm cov kev lig kev cai, mus neig xyuas cov tsev kawn ntawv qib siab, thiaj pab kom npaj tau kev kawn haujtwm zoo rrog rau kev mus xyuam ua haujtwm nrog rau kev kawn tau qhabnias zoo thiaj kom tus kheej yuav tsum ua tau zoo.

Nrog rau kev kawn tau ntawv zoo nyob hauv menyuam cov kev kawn, Parent University muab kev pab txhua hnuab rau cov niam txiv thiaj neeg zej zog. Txij thiaj lub caij nlpooj ntoos zeeg xyoo 2010, muaj coob tsaj li 15,493 tus niam txiv tau kawn tas Parent University cov kev qhia ua kom niam txiv paub paub lawv cov menyuam txoj kev kawn ntawv.

Qhov kev pab no zoo heev ua rau Hauv Paus Tsev Kawn Ntauw Long Beach thiaj Mendota tau muab coj mus siv los npaj ua kom muaj kev kawn thiaj kev cob qhia cov niam txiv ua lawv hom lus ua kom lawy paub txog kev muaj vaj huam sib luag, nyiaj txiaj rau kev kawn ntawv, paub saib xyuas menyuam kawn ntawv tej kev kawn, kev loj hlob, kev mus kawn ntawv txhua hnuab, lub xeev cov kev kawn, thiaj niam txiv cov kev npaj. Parent University tsis yog qhia ua kom niam txiv paub ua menyuam thawj tus xib fwb xwb tiam siss qhia txog kev coj thiaj kev paub menyuam txog kev kawn haujtwm rau lawv lub neej tom ntje.

Lentil Soup with Spinach

Makes 6 servings

2 cups French green lentils
2 tablespoons olive oil
3 cloves garlic, minced
1 medium onion, finely diced
1 heaping teaspoon ground cumin
1 heaping teaspoon lemon zest
2 cups baby spinach or arugula
2 cups low sodium chicken or vegetable broth
1/4 cup chopped cilantro
Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste

Cover the lentils with about 5 cups of water. Bring to a boil then simmer for 20 minutes until they soften. Drain. Warm the oil in a soup pot and add the onions and garlic. Sauté until slightly golden for about 8 minutes. Add the spinach or arugula and sauté for a couple minutes until it wilts. Add the cumin, lemon zest, lentils, broth, 2 cups of water, bring to a boil then simmer for 15 minutes. Stir in the cilantro and season to taste.

Important Dates
Academic Year
2014/15
Spring break: March 30- April 6, 2015
Last day of school: June 11, 2015
First day of school 2015/16: Aug. 17, 2015

Here’s a healthy, seasonal dish
to help you thrive

Visit our Fresno Medical Center Farmers Market
7300 N. Fresno St., Wednesdays, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

kp.org/fresno KAISER PERMANENTE. thrive
Mesaje del SUPERINTENDENTE

Los estudiantes, maestros y personal del distrito han regresado a las escuelas después de las vacaciones de invierno con energía renovada y listos para continuar con la segunda mitad del año académico, enfocados en el aprendizaje y preparando nuestro más de 73,000 estudiantes para que estén listos para una carrera. Nuestros empleados toman muy en serio el papel que ellos juegan cada día en construir una mejor comunidad de aprendizaje que sabien-
das del impacto profundo que tienen en el aprendizaje diario de los estudiantes. Nuestro Índice de Mejoramiento de la Calidad en Nuestras Escuelas, el enfoque manifestándose ellas mismas todo el distrito, vemos estas áreas de todas maneras diferentes. Se pueden percibir en nuestro equipo de opera-
ciones porque ellos apoyan proyectos de construcción tales como la reno-
vación de arriba a abajo recientemente terminada en la escuela Sequoia. El proyecto de $7.5 millones, remodeló 39 salones de clase, la biblioteca y el edificio administrativo. Con la ayuda de los dólares de la Medida Q estamos construyendo un medioambiente mas fuerte para la enseñanza y el aprendizaje-
je invitando en todos los vecindarios del distrito mientras ayudamos a la economía local manteniendo los

Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv Fresno saibxyuas ntxiv txog: • Tswv yim ua kom muaj kev pab txhua tus menyuam kawn ntawv kawm ib xyoos ua kom nce ib qhia. • Cia kom muaj sib tsix sib luag rau cov menyuam kawn ntawv txog cov kev pab thiab kev xaiv. • Ua haujlwm nhrivs kom tu cov neeg yoy coj los nyob rau qhov chaw yoy ntawv lub koomhaum thiab yoy sihjawm thiab cia kom lawv nyob hauv Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv Fresno. • Sijhawm, uas yoy muab sihjawm ntawv nhrivs nrog tus xib fwb paub thiab muab sihjawm rau cov xibfwb mus kawn ntxiv. Nyob rau hauv cov tsev nhrivs thiab yoy ntawv cov chaw pab cuam, peb saibxyuas as ua kom lawv cov kev pab tawm loj hlob tus kheej los ntawv kev ua ntai yam. Nwg zoo li uas peb paeg neeg saibxyuas cov kev ua vaj tse “sau mus txog hauw” nyiam quhav khe tais nyob ntawv Tsev Kawm Ntawv Sequia. Yoy raug $ 7.5 lab nyiaj coj los khe 39 chaw qhia ntawv thiab kev tsev qhia nrog rau lub tsev uas cov thawj ua haujlwm. Nrog rau Measure Q qhov kev, peb tsim khe nf rau cov vaj tse zauu rau txoj qhia thiab kwaj kwaj kwaj nhrivs. Muab kev khe tais tais paub cov cov tsev kawn ntawv hauv zej zog thiab paub ua kom cov lag luam hauv zog zo thiab cia cia cov nyiaj nyob rau hauv lub yob og ib qhov uas tseem ceeb.


Muaj kev qhia thiab zoi li Kes Duab, Menyuam Tshawb Nhrivs yaw tuce tu nxiv thawj hauv zog no tawm nhrivs cov thawj hauv nhrivs. Menyuam Tshawb Nhrivs rau khe Cia kom cuam, peb saibxyuas as cov kev qhia thiab cia kom lawv nyob rau hauv Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv Fresno.

La Unidad de Acceso para los estudiantes en términos de los programas y opciones

Trabajo para tener a las personas adecuadas en el lugar y la organización adecuada en el momento adecuado y mantenerlos en el Distrito Escolar de Fresno

Tiempo, el cual incluye más tiempo con un maestro afectivo así como proveer capacitación profesional para maestros

En escuelas y departamentos en escuelas y departamentos en todo el distrito, vemos estas áreas de enfoque manifestándose ellas mismas de maneras diferentes. Se pueden percibir en nuestro equipo de operaciones porque ellos apoyan proyectos de construcción tales como la renovación de arriba a abajo recientemente terminada en la escuela Sequoia. El proyecto de $7.5 millones, remodeló 39 salones de clase, la biblioteca y el edificio administrativo. Con la ayuda de los dólares de la Medida Q estamos construyendo un medioambiente más fuerte para la enseñanza y el aprendizaje invitando en todos los vecindarios del distrito mientras ayudamos a la economía local manteniendo los dólares de sus impuestos localmente contratando firmas locales para hacer este importante trabajo.

Si ustedes fueron al cine durante las vacaciones de invierno, entonces ustedes posiblemente vieron nuestro más nuevo comercial sobre la Transición para Enseñar del Distrito Escolar de Fresno. Este es sólo una manera más en la que estamos tratando de buscar líderes calificados en nuestra ciudad para que se motiven a enseñar. Y no solo estamos reclutando maestros. El distrito tiene un número de posiciones administrativas, técnicas y de empleados de oficina actualmente disponibles. Ustedes pueden encontrar una lista de estas posiciones en www.fresnounified.org.

Nuevas iniciativas tales como integración Artística, ¡Niños Inventando! Para todos los estudiantes de 5to grado y nuestro programa de “Desde el Nacimiento al Tercero” (B3) con una subvención del condado de Fresno, son ejemplos de esfuerzos permanentes que están inspirando la creatividad, mejorando el rendimiento académico y ayudando a asegurar que todos los estudiantes estén progresando a un nivel de grado y leyendo para el tercer grado. Estos nuevos programas son tan emocionantes para nuestro maestros como para nuestros estudiantes y Yo los motivo para que aprendan más acerca de estos programas y otros programas en la edición de este mes de Building Futures porque mantienen a nuestras jóvenes del distrito avanzando.

Thawj Coj Tsev Kawm Ntawv Cov Lus Tshaj Tawm

Menyuam kawn ntawv, xib fwb, thiab cov neeg ua haujlwm rov qab mus hauv tsev kawn ntawv lawv qab thawm mus so lub caij ntuj no nrog rau kev muaj
Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv Hauv Lwm nrog Tej Yim Tsev Neeg txog Tsim Cov Ngeen Nyeem Tau Ntawv Zoo

Hauv paus tsev kawn ntawv txhawb tej kawm ngeen ntej tub kawn ntawv nrog rau ib txoy kev kawn txhawb nrog kawm ntsi ntsees ua hauv lwm nrog tej niam txiv thia lawv tej me nyuam txij hnuab nyooq yug kiaq txog qiab.

Siab, tau ib txoj dej num them nyiaj zoo, tsis nkag rau txoj kev txhuaun caii, thiab thiaw sig hnaub neej txoj nyem.


Los distritos incluidos en B3 tienen acceso a fondos de subvención, mejores prácticas y expertos en asuntos en la materia, así como, asistencia técnica y capacitación.

**The Greatest Loser Challenge**

Fresno Unified and Pinnacle Training Systems are partnering together to offer a district-wide Greatest Loser Competition. This is a 10-week challenge which will include weekly webinars on topics related to nutrition and physical activity.

Initial weigh-ins take place in the first week of February, while final weigh-ins will occur the first week of April. One point will be awarded for every 1% of body fat lost and 0.5% of muscle mass gained. The person, team (of 4) and school with the most points will win.

This competition is open to all District employees, dependents (age 18+), domestic partners, spouses, retirees, and early retirees. You may enter as an individual or a team (must have 4 people to a team).

Individuals will be scored as one competition and teams as another. In addition, the school with the most participants will also win a prize. Registration closes February 10 at 11:59 PM. Visit www.JHMBHealthConnect.com/events to register.

WellPATH seeks to foster a healthy work environment and engage Fresno Unified School District employees in their health and well-being. Participation in program activities is open to active employees, spouses, domestic partners, dependent children age 18+, early retirees, and retirees covered under the District’s health benefit plan.