Early College High School has Designs on Fresno City College

Highly Successful School Moving to College Campus

Plans are moving forward to relocate Design Science Early College High School to a permanent facility at Fresno City College.

Design Science is one of the district’s specialty high schools, providing students an opportunity to concurrently enroll in Fresno City College and graduate from high school as college sophomores.

For video, go to vimeo.com/fresnounified/designdes

The Fresno Unified Board of Education on Feb. 8 approved allocating $6 million as the district’s contribution for future construction of a new Design Science High School facility. The school has been housed in temporary buildings east of the college across Blackstone Avenue on Cambridge Avenue and sharing space with Patiño School of Entrepreneurship.

Plans have been in the works since 2004 when Fresno City College and Fresno Unified first entered into a memorandum of understanding that recognized the great promise of the early college initiative.

The next phase is to begin planning in collaboration with Fresno City College during the college’s master plan process, reflecting the strengthened partnership between Fresno Unified, Fresno City College and the State Center Community College District.

“Moving Design Science actually into a permanent facility will highly successful school moving to college campus”

Jackson Whittle, left, and Gloria Martinez-Guzman walk to class past the iconic arches of Fresno City College’s Old Administration Building. As students at Design Science Early College High School, they take classes at City College as well. Jackson has received full-ride scholarship offers to Bethune-Cookman University and Dillard University and Gloria has committed to Grand Canyon University.

BY THE NUMBERS FOR THE CLASS OF 2017

- 100% graduation rate
- 100% will complete A-G course requirements
- 100% have taken the SAT/ACT
- 100% have completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- 90% have already received admission to a four-year university, with 100% projected

Fresno Unified Board Approves 'Safe Place' Designation

Fresno Unified School District reiterated its commitment to serving all students, regardless of their immigration status, approving a “Safe Place School District” resolution on a unanimous vote at the March 8 board meeting.

“Moving Design Science actually into a permanent facility will highly successful school moving to college campus”

See SAFE PLACE Continued on page 4

Fresno Unified School District reiterated its commitment to serving all students, regardless of their immigration status, approving a “Safe Place School District” resolution on a unanimous vote at the March 8 board meeting.

“This designation goes beyond saying school sites are safe places where students receive

See SAFE PLACE Continued on page 4
Preschool, Kindergarten Registration Underway at Schools

Fresno Unified is excited to announce that enrollment is underway for pre-kindergarten/preschool, transitional kindergarten, and kindergarten for the 2017-18 school year.

The district’s early learning programs help children develop skills that will prepare them socially, emotionally, and academically for the rigors of elementary school, building a solid foundation for success in elementary school and beyond.

Families are urged to enroll their children as soon as possible to give the district and schools an opportunity to plan for the number of students this fall.

**Prekindergarten/Preschool**

Prekindergarten, or preschool, is a no-cost program available to families who live within Fresno Unified’s boundaries. All families with children who are 4 years old by Dec. 2, 2017 are encouraged to apply. Enrollment packets are available at all elementary school sites. To learn more about the preschool enrollment process, contact the Early Learning Department at (559) 457-3682.

**Transitional Kindergarten and Kindergarten**

Transitional kindergarten (TK) is the first year of a two-year kindergarten experience. TK is designed for students whose fifth birthday falls between Sept. 1 and Dec. 2, 2017. TK provides opportunities for social-emotional and language development as well as basic mathematics and literacy concepts. After year one, transitional kindergartners progress into a traditional kindergarten classroom for year two.

To be eligible for kindergarten, students must be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2017.

Families should register as soon as possible for TK and kindergarten as spaces fill up fast. Registration for TK and kindergarten takes place daily at each elementary school. Families should contact their home school for more information.

Families who are not sure what school their child will attend should visit Fresno Unified’s website at www.fresnounified.org or call (559) 457-3351 and district staff will help locate the correct elementary school based on the home address.

If a child is currently receiving special education services, contact the Special Education Department at (559) 457-3220.

La Inscripción Para Preescolar y Kindergarten Está en Trámite

El Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno con entusiasmo anuncia que está en trámite la inscripción para pre-kindergarten/preschool, kindergarten, transitions kindergarten para el ciclo escolar 2017-18.

Los programas de aprendizaje temprano del distrito ayudan a los niños a desarrollar las destrezas que los prepararán socialmente, emocionalmente y académicamente para la rigurosidad de la escuela primaria, construyendo una base sólida para el éxito en la primaria y más.

Se anima a las familias a inscribir a su niño/a lo más pronto posible para proveer al distrito y escuelas la oportunidad de planear para el número de estudiantes este otoño.

Prekindergarten/Preescolar

Prekindergarten, o preescolar, es un programa sin costo alguno disponible para las familias que viven dentro de los límites del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno. Se motiva a todas las familias con niños que tienen 4 años de edad para el 2 de diciembre del 2017, a aplicar. Los paquetes de inscripción están disponibles en todas las escuelas primarias. Para aprender más acerca del proceso de inscripción preescolar, comuníquese con el Departamento de Aprendizaje Temprano al (559) 457-3682.

**Kindergarten Transicional y Kindergarten**

Transitional kindergarten (TK) is the primero de dos años de experiencia en kindergarten. TK está diseñado para los estudiantes que cumplen cinco años en el otoño entre el 2 de septiembre y el 2 de diciembre del 2017. TK provee oportunidades para el desarrollo socio-emocional y lenguaje como también los conceptos básicos de matemáticas y alfabetización. Después del primer año, los estudiantes transicionan al salón de clase para el segundo año de kindergarten tradicional.

Para ser elegible para kindergarten, los estudiantes deben haber cumplido los 5 años el o antes del 1ro del 2017. Las familias deben inscribirse lo más pronto posible para TK y kindergarten ya que los lugares se llenan rápido. Las inscripciones para TK y kindergarten se llevan a cabo a diario en las escuelas primarias. Para más información las familias deben comunicarse con la escuela de su vecindario.

Las familias que no están seguras a cual escuela asistirá su niño/a deben visitar la página de internet del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno en: www.fresnounified.org o llamar al (559) 457-3351 y el personal del distrito le ayudará a localizar la escuela primaria basada en la dirección de su hogar.

Si actualmente el niño está recibiendo servicios de educación especial, comuníquese con el departamento de Educación Especial al (559) 457-3220.

**Preschool, Kindergarten Tab Tom Yuav Muaj Kev Cuv Npe**

Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv muaj siab hlo los tshaj qhia tias tab tom muaj kev cuv npe rau pre-kindergarten/ preschool, transitional kindergarten, thiab kindergarten rau lub xyoo kawm ntwaw 2017-18.

Hauv paus tsev kawn ntwaw qhov kev kawn thuam ntsov pab tai tej me nyuam tsim kev txawj uas yuav npaj lawv muaj kev sib haum xeeb, lub siab zoo thiab kawn tau txuj ci haum rau tsev kawn ntwaw tehem qis, tsim lub hauv paus ruj khov rau kev kawn tau hauv tsev kawn ntwaw tehem qis thiab ntxiv mus lawm yav tom ntej.

Tej yim tsev neeg raug nq hu kom cuv lawv tej me nyuam npe kawn kom sai li sai tau muab ib txoj hau kev rau

See PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT Continued on page 16
Interim Superintendent Bob Nelson: ‘Our District Goals Have Not Changed’

As I sit down to write my first Building Futures message as interim superintendent, let me first say that I am humbled and honored by the tremendous show of support from district employees, the community and the board of education as I begin this new role.

While I have spent 23 years of my adult life working for the district, I know that education is fundamentally about relationships, so I thought I should share a little more about myself, beyond the few sound bites or quotes you may have seen on television or read in the newspaper. Outside of being an educator, I am a husband and a father to seven amazing children ranging in ages from 20 years old to 16-month-old twins, including a teenager with cerebral palsy. Guided by our faith, my wife, Tiffany, and I have always felt a need to support children in our community, and have spent a number of years as foster parents, resulting in the adoption of four of our seven children.

Beyond my family, my love and passion is in education. I have been a Fresno Unified teacher, vice principal, principal, and human resources administrator, and before returning to the district two years ago, I served as superintendent in Chawanakee Unified in Madera County. I teach at Fresno State one night per week in the Counseling Program and I am currently finishing my doctoral degree at the University of Southern California. As a lifelong learner, I believe that education is the key to success and I want our students to have every opportunity to succeed. I know firsthand how hard our students and staff work every day and I am grateful for their tremendous efforts.

To that end, my focus and that of the district remains the same: To ensure that our students upon graduating Fresno Unified have the greatest number of postsecondary choices from the widest array of options.

As we head into the end of the 2016/17 school year we only have a few months left to impact student learning outcomes. Although this is the first year in which we saw improvement on the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) state tests in all of our student groups, we are still far from our expressed goal that, “All students will meet or exceed in these measures.”

Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) state tests in all of our student groups, we are still far from our expressed goal that, “All students will meet or exceed in these measures.”

Again, we’ve made significant strides and improvements and I am grateful for the community support we have received in that effort. While I am all about celebrating small wins and improvements, we also have to ground ourselves in the reality that our students still need our support, along with parents, guardians, and our community at large, to close the achievement gap. I’m confident with community support we can do nearly anything we set our minds to!

See SUPT. MESSAGE SPANISH AND HMONG Continued on page 15
SAFE PLACE
Continued from page 1

both academic and social-emotional supports -- that has always been our practice," said interim superintendent Bob Nelson.

“T his designation also calls for an implementation plan that we will provide our students and families with appropriate supports and reassurances for their safety specific to concerns around immigration.”

The board received input from the community, stakeholders, students and parents before approving the resolution.

The designation affirms the district’s current policies, practices, and procedures, including:

• All students have a right to a public education irrespective of immigration status
• Promotes tolerance and acceptance over hate speech
• Affirms the board of education’s commitment to the district’s Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy 0411
• Sustains district policy that the district does not request, obtain or maintain records related to immigration status
• Ensures school resource officers and school neighborhood resource officers will adhere to the City of Fresno policy of not participating in immigration enforcement
• Honors existing Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) policy that identifies school facilities as "sensitive" locations, exempt from immigration enforcement

The resolution “declares that every Fresno Unified School District site is a safe place for its students and families to seek help, assistance and information if faced with fear and anxiety about any safety concern, including enforcement of immigration laws.”

It notes the U.S. Supreme Court 1982 ruling in Plyler v. Doe that prohibits public schools from denying students access to elementary and secondary education based on their immigration status.

With the resolution, Fresno Unified joined more than 25 California school districts, counties and institutions of higher education adopting policies that restrict entanglement with ICE.

The resolution notes that ICE activities in and around schools and other district facilities would be a “severe disruption to the learning environment and educational setting for students.” It also notes that students’ ability to achieve is undermined by the removal of family members during ICE activities and could leave students without anyone to care for them.

As a “Safe Place School District,” Fresno Unified will not facilitate or participate in immigration enforcement activities, to the fullest extent allowed by law; ICE agents will not be allowed to enter schools or district properties without complying with requirements applicable to other state and local law enforcement authorities; and won’t release a student to ICE without consent of parents unless the district is required by law to do so.

The “Safe Place” designation also means that Fresno Unified will partner with community organizations that provide resources for families facing deportation.

The resolution highlights Fresno Unified’s diversity, noting that 63 languages are spoken in district schools, including Spanish, Hmong, Armenian, Korean, Tagalog, Cantonese, Arabic, Vietnamese and Russian.

“In publically reaffirming our commitment to educating all students, we hope to reassure our families that Fresno Unified schools are a safe place for students to learn, pursue their dreams, and prepare for the best possible future once they leave our schools,” Nelson said.

Lugar Seguro
El Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno reiteró su compromiso de servir a todos los estudiantes, independientemente de su estatus migratorio, aprobar por votación unánime la resolución “Lugar Seguro en el Distrito Escolar,” en la reunión de la Mesa Educativa el 8 de marzo.

“Esta designación va más allá mencionando que las escuelas son lugares seguros donde los estudiantes reciben ambos apoyos, académico y socioemocional -- esta es nuestra práctica siempre,” dijo el superintendente interino Bob Nelson.

“Esta designación también requiere un plan de implementación del cual proveerá a nuestros estudiantes y familias con apoyos apropiados y tranquilidad de seguridad específica a sus inquietudes en relación a inmigración”.

La mesa educativa recibió opiniones/sugerencias de la comunidad, personas interesadas, estudiantes y padres antes de aprobar la resolución.

La designación afirma que las políticas, prácticas y procedimientos actuales del distrito, incluyendo:

• Todos los estudiantes tienen el derecho a educación independientemente del estatus migratorio
• Promover la tolerancia y aceptación sobre incitación de odio
• Afirman el compromiso de la mesa educativa a la Diversidad, Equidad e Inclusión de la Política 0411 del distrito
• Mantener la política del distrito, que el mismo no solicita, obtiene ni guarda registros relacionados al estatus migratorio.

• Garantizar que los oficiales de recursos escolares y del vecindario se adieran a la política de la Ciudad de Fresno de no participar en aplicar el control de inmigración
• Respetar la política actual de Inmigración de Control de Aduanas que identifica las instalaciones escolares como lugares “sensibles” exentos de aplicar el control de inmigración

La resolución “declara que todas las escuelas del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno son un lugar seguro para los estudiantes y las familias para buscar ayuda, asistencia e información si se enfrentan con el temor o ansiedad acerca de alguna preocupación, incluyendo aplicación de las leyes de inmigración.”

El Tribunal Supremo de los Estados Unidos 1982 menciona la decisión de Plyler v. Doe la cual prohíbe a las escuelas públicas negar a los estudiantes de primaria y secundaria acceso a educación basada en el estatus migratorio.

Con la resolución, el Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno, se une a más de 25 distritos escolares, condados e instituciones de educación superior en California adoptando las políticas que restringen la implicación con Servicios de Inmigración y Control de Aduanas (ICE).

La resolución menciona que las actividades de los agentes de ICE dentro y afuera de las escuelas y otras

See SAFE PLACE
Continued on page 13
New buildings are rising at Turner and Figarden elementary schools as part of the district’s Measure Q projects.

The project at Turner includes the construction of a new classroom building and a new administration building to replace 13 existing portable classrooms. Both buildings should be completed in time for the start of the new school year in August.

At Figarden, a new classroom building and a new kindergarten classroom building will be completed this June.

The Turner and Figarden projects are among $265 million in projects funded by the $280 million Measure Q, approved by voters in 2010. In addition, plans are underway to build on the work with Measure X. Voters approved the $225 million Measure X on Nov. 8.

Because of the support of the community for local bond measures, Fresno Unified has been able to make significant improvements to campuses throughout the district, including school renovations, new safety and technology updates and new buildings to replace portables.

At Turner, the new 10,000 square-foot building features eight classrooms, student and staff restrooms and a shared internal collaboration space to foster project-based learning.

The new administration building’s prominent location on the corner of Peach and Clay avenues will help reinforce the school’s identity. The 2,000 square-foot building replaces the portable administration building and features a visitor waiting area, meeting room, nurse’s office and restroom, teacher workroom, staff restroom and new administrative offices.

At Figarden, construction is underway on an eight-classroom building and a four-classroom kindergarten building. When the buildings are complete and teachers move in in June, the district will start on another eight-classroom building, scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2018.

The classroom buildings were designed with larger collaborative study areas running down the center of all eight classrooms. The kindergarten classrooms have direct access to restrooms and large teacher workroom areas.

With completion of the Figarden projects, the 20 new classrooms will replace 18 portables.

The Fresno Unified Board of Education approved a list of Measure X projects at its Oct. 12 meeting. Projects include a new school in southeast Fresno to accommodate enrollment growth; districtwide, science and technology labs, career/technical education classrooms, music and arts classrooms, elementary school security upgrades, parking lot gates; and a variety of other projects ranging from air conditioning, to new classrooms to new theaters at high schools.
Students at Manchester GATE Elementary School collected 348 new and gently used teddy bears along with other stuffed animals to help children in crisis.

The stuffed animals are used by police officers to help comfort children they encounter during police calls and crime scenes, incidents that are often highly traumatic for children in the homes, said Fresno Police Department detective Sgt. Diana Trueba.

The students delivered the stuffed animals to the Manchester Center substation of the police department Feb. 16.

“We were overwhelmed with the support of the students, not just for the police department but for all the families who will benefit from the teddy bears,” Trueba said. “That was a lot of teddy bears.”

The students are members of the Kiwanis Kids service club for fifth- and sixth-graders. Sixth-grade teacher Anita Ullner is the adviser to the club.

The students learned through a volunteer who works with the police department that the department has an ongoing teddy bear drive. The project appealed to the students, Ullner said, and they wanted to help.

“We heard about what the struggles were for some kids if something happens,” said Kiwanis Kids vice president Dominic Marsella, a sixth-grader. “We wanted to find a way to help them out and we thought teddy bears would be good.”

Dominic said a stuffed animal provides “a feeling of having someone there. It comforts you and it’s soft and it’s nice.”

Dominic said the police department was happy with the donation and surprised at how many stuffed animals the students delivered.

“They were glad kids were putting back into the community and helping out,” Dominic said.

To Donate Teddy Bears:

Contact detective Sgt. Diana Trueba at (559) 621-6205

“knowing that we were helping out.”
Bullard Girls Soccer Wins Valley Title

The Bullard High School girls soccer team, left, beat Clovis North High School, 1-0, Feb. 25 for the Division I Valley title and won its first round of Southern California regional playoffs. Back row, left to right is Brook Lynn Crews, Baylie Hill, Megan Hawthorne, Madison Nichols, Samantha Goodrich, Alison Phasakda and Gianna Dickson; middle row, left to right is Alyssa Renovato, Jordyne Puente, Catie Halvorsen, Nicole Guerrero, Bailey Arreola, Kamryn Sorrick, Khylie DeJean, Launita Gresham and Maya Sanders; front row, left to right, is Caroline Cole, Aliyah Anguiano, Hattie Cahill, Jessica Crump, Alexis Macias and Alexa Ortega.

Middle left, Alyssa Renovato (left) and Alexis Macias clash with Huntington Beach High School in the regional playoffs.

The Edison High School boys soccer team, bottom left, finished runner-up in the Division II section championship game, losing to Golden West High School, 3-2, on Feb. 28. Front row, left to right, is Andreas Solis, Issak Lopez, Mckay Romero, Michael Enriquez and Travin Webb; middle row, left to right, is Coach Abraham Becerril, manager Josceline Virrey, manager Karina Ortega, Coach Femi Olukanni, Coach Ricardo Duran, Christian Flores, Jaylen Magee, Connor Capello, Javier Delatorre, Edgar Garcia, Genaro Hernandez, Christian Garcia, Samuel Hawley and Jesus Torres; back row, left to right, is Coach Avin Bolanos, Kevin Arias, Anthony Avila, Eric Gaytan, Bryan Baeulos, Jose Esparza, Jesus Sandoval, Bacilio Rubio, Jorge Correa, Joaquin Ayon and Jaime Ruvalcaba.

Left, Edison High’s Christian Flores battles during the title game with Golden West.

Below, Bullard High’s Dawson Sihavong (126 pounds) placed sixth on March 4 at the CIF State Wrestling Tournament in Bakersfield.
EMLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Teacher at Bakman Advocates for Students with Special Needs

Amy Sousa, a 23-year veteran of teaching, is a resource specialist program teacher at Bakman Elementary School. She was a recent finalist for the district’s Excellence in Education awards. A colleague, Michelle Diebert from Phoenix Elementary Academy, said this about Sousa: “She has always been an advocate for children with special needs and goes above and beyond to see that their needs are being met at school. Even with her most difficult students with incredible obstacles, I have never heard her give up on a child.”

You have been teaching for over 20 years. How do you stay inspired?

My students inspire me every day! I see the personal and educational challenges they conquer, and it makes me want to do more to help. They are so excited when they grasp a concept, and that excites me. There is still nothing like sharing that moment of discovery with a student.

You are a resource specialist program teacher. What does that entail?

My position falls under the umbrella of Special Education. I work with students with IEPs [individualized education program] and help facilitate their access to the general education core curriculum. I work together with classroom teachers to make sure a student’s needs are being met. Many times, the smallest adjustments make a huge difference. Other times, there are more interventions that need to be put in place. I’m very fortunate to work with an amazing team of professionals who believe in educating all students. That makes my job very rewarding.

What is the most challenging part of your job?

My students inspire me every day! I think many students are motivated by their own progress. If I am able to engineer a situation in which a student is able to grasp a grade level concept at their instructional level, that’s big. That makes a student eager to learn more.

What do you enjoy the most about your job?

I love working with my students, and I love working with our Bakman team: our instructional assistants, teachers, parent volunteers, NTAs, administrators, clerical and custodial staff, and DIS/psychs/emotional support staff and DIS/psychs/emotional support staff will do whatever it takes to help a student or a family. Coming together for our families and addressing their needs can create lifelong change. I’m always honored to be a part of that process.

What works best to motivate students?

There are, of course, not enough hours in the day to meet every need. Striving for balance between meeting student needs and case management is a never-ending challenge. Much of the work at Bakman occurs in collaborative teams, and that’s a huge support. We can get much more done together than we can working individually.

What book are you recommending to others right now?

We received so many great resources as part of the restorative practices training this year. One book I especially like is “Emotional Intelligence 2.0” by Travis Bradberry and Jean Greaves. It’s a good, quick read about the emerging importance of EQ (emotional intelligence as opposed to IQ intelligence) not only in education, but in our culture.

Amy Sousa is a resource specialist program teacher at Bakman Elementary School. Sousa was a recent finalist for an Excellence in Education award.

Wawona Aide Draws on His Experiences to Mentor Students

Myric McGhee, 24, has been a para professional at Wawona Middle School for two years working with special education students. He also oversees a mentoring class for 11 boys who have good attendance and motivation, but their grades and behavior do not reflect their abilities. Wawona principal Kim Villescaz said this about Myric: “Students go to him when they have a problem and he always goes above and beyond what is expected of him.” Myric was a finalist in February for an Excellence in Education award.

What does your job as a para professional in special education entail?

My job as a para is to help support and encourage all of the students and make sure that everyone is up to speed on the lesson and getting the necessary help they need.

What is the best part about your job?

If I had to choose I’d say the best part of my job is seeing the help you’re providing actually making a difference in their lives and in the classroom.

What is the most challenging part about your job?

The most challenging part of my job would have to be breaking students’ already established habits that aren’t necessarily suitable in the classroom, and helping them form new habits that are accepted at school.

See MYRIC MCGHEE

Continued on page 9
**District Expanding Programs to Immerse Students in Two Languages**

The district is continuing its commitment to providing more dual immersion enrollment opportunities for students.

Starting this fall, Rowell Elementary School will offer dual immersion classes for the first time, starting with two pre-kindergarten and two kindergarten classes and then adding one grade level each year. Rowell Elementary was targeted for expansion of the district’s dual immersion program after parents there expressed interest in dual immersion opportunities.

“Through the revision of the English Learners Master Plan, there are specific actions for the district to expand the dual immersion program to other schools,” said Maria Maldonado, assistant superintendent of English Learner Services.

Rowell was also ideal for expansion because it feeds into Yosemite Middle School and McLane High School. Yosemite has a dual immersion program already in place and McLane will be launching a dual immersion program in the fall.

By developing a dual immersion program at Rowell and McLane, Fresno Unified will have its first complete dual immersion pathway streamlined from pre-kindergarten through high school. In addition, Fresno Unified has been very intentional in ensuring all dual immersion teachers receive the support they need. The district is fully invested in bilingual teachers’ success by providing professional learning and collaboration opportunities.

Fresno Unified’s dual immersion program begins at pre-kindergarten or kindergarten. At this starting level, students receive instruction in Spanish for 90% of the day and in English 10% of the day. With each passing grade level, the percentage of instruction in English increases, with fourth grade on curriculum taught 50% in English and 50% in Spanish. The students learn to read, write and speak in both languages.

“Parents have expressed their desire for their children to become bilingual and bi-literate. Fresno Unified is eager to provide those opportunities. Being bilingual is an excellent asset to help students become college and career ready,” Maldonado said.

Fresno Unified offers dual immersion programs at a number of schools, including Ewing and Leavenworth elementary schools. Sunset Elementary School is a 100% dual immersion school. Sun. is currently accepting transfer applications for pre-kindergarten, transitional kindergarten and kindergarten for the 2017-18 school year. Applications can be picked up at Sunset Monday through Friday from 7:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. Applications can also be picked up at the Transfers Office. For more information, please call 457-3310.

Sunset Elementary School fifth grade teacher Roberto Contreras works with his students in Spanish and English. Sunset is a 100% dual immersion campus. The school is accepting applications.

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**AMY SOUSA**

**Continued from page 8**

as a whole. It’s packed with dozens of takeaway ideas that you can read and use immediately. Also, it’s very uplifting. I call it my lunchtime book!

**What’s your favorite book for elementary students?**

“The Snowy Day,” by Ezra Jack Keats. It’s a timeless classic about a child who goes on a walk in his neighborhood on a snowy morning. There are so many sensory moments in this book. What does the child feel, hear, etc. on his walk? Even though we do not live in a snowy climate, students can compare their sensory experiences to the character in the book. It’s a gem.

**Name one thing most people do not know about you.**

I met my husband in kindergarten at Wishon Elementary and we went all through school together, graduating from McLane in 1982. He too works for the district. So I guess you could say we are a true Fresno Unified family!

**If you were not a teacher, what career would you choose?**

Teaching was my second career. I used to do professional writing for ad agencies (newsletters, annual reports, etc.). When I discovered teaching, I knew I had found my life’s work, but I’ve always retained that love of language, words, and writing. Maybe freelance writing is something I’d like to do eventually. Even so, it’s hard to imagine a job without students!

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**MYRIC MCGHEE**

**Continued from page 8**

**What are your future goals?**

My future goals are to finish med school and become an orthopedic surgeon. I also plan on moving to Southern California, opening my own practice and starting a family in Santa Monica near the beach.

**What do you draw on from your experiences as a student to help your students now?**

I draw on a lot of the tough times I had as a student in the classroom. I struggled with the work and staying focused, but along the way I picked up skills that helped me change my attitude, my perception and reputation.

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**What is one thing most people do not know about you?**

Most people don’t know that I love soccer and it has always been my passion, since a child. After breaking my leg in college my dreams were cut short. After great treatment and healing I one day hope to pursue my dream once again.

**What’s your dream vacation?**

My dream vacation is to one day travel to Spain with a friend and spend a week sight-seeing, exploring, learning new cultures and watching a Barcelona game.
Fresno Unified Summer Programs: Something for Everyone

The district’s summer school, Expanded Learning Summer Program, is gearing up to keep students on track for graduation while preparing them for post-secondary education and workplace success.

Last summer, more than 13,000 students participated in learning opportunities outside of the traditional school calendar that allowed them to recover credits for graduation or to further develop skills gained during the regular school year.

The 2017 Expanded Learning Summer Program will be held June 13 to July 13. Program invitations and applications were distributed to students beginning the week of March 20.

Enrichment program space is limited and students will be enrolled on a first come, first served basis. Elementary and middle school students who return their applications to their school site by April 7 will be given priority for enrollment. High school students will be contacted by their school counselor to schedule summer coursework.

Detailed information regarding summer school sites and times can be obtained by contacting students’ schools or visiting the Fresno Unified Extended Learning website at www.fresnou.org/dept/extendedlearning.

Intervention Programs

- Reading by third grade: Supports English and dual immersion students exiting kindergarten through second grade students needing additional instruction on foundational skills to help reading fluency.

- Elementary redesignation: Supports exiting third- through fifth-grade English language learners acquire proficiency in language and literacy to attain redesignation.

- English language development for newcomers: For exiting sixth- through eighth-grade students in the U.S. less than three years; to support achieving one language acquisition level per year.

- Academic language development for long term English learners: For exiting sixth- through seventh-grade long term English learners; to help students acquire proficiency in language and literacy to attain redesignation before exiting middle school.

- Math proficiency: To support exiting sixth-grade students’ transition to middle school; goal setting, team and culture building activities while strengthening key math concepts to prepare for algebra.

- Graduation: Credit recovery for high school students deficient in credits for graduation, or A-G deficient for college admissions.

- Special education: Extended school year for special education students pre-kindergarten through the Adult Transition Program as determined by a student’s individual IEP.

For More Information

Eunique Johnson
(559) 248-7466
www.fresnou.org/dept/extendedlearning

Enrichment Programs

- A Week in the Life: An enrichment program focusing on increasing career awareness and the use of career technical educational (CTE) activities to promote literacy for interested students exiting third-fifth grade.

- Hmong Heritage and Culture: An enrichment program focusing on Hmong history, language, culture, and literacy in support of producing bilingual, bicultural, and biliterate students for interested students exiting first-fourth grade.

- After School University: An enrichment program housed on the Fresno State University campus providing students with personal and academic enrichment in multiple subject areas; open to exiting first-eighth grade students.

- Middle school CTE enrichment: An enrichment program for exiting sixth-seventh grade students interested in robotics, coding, video production and medical sciences. Students will learn about career paths related to these areas.

- Summer Bridge: Designed to onboard incoming ninth grade students to support a smooth transition to high school. Students will explore career pathways, enhance their study skills, and engage in campus culture and team building activities.

Acceleration Programs

- Young Scholars: An acceleration program focusing on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education and verbal explanation for exiting second grade students identified as having GATE (gifted) potential.

- Original credit: Courses offered to exiting eighth-eleventh grade “on track” students, to accelerate and/or create room in their schedule during the traditional school year to take additional Advanced Placement courses, visual performing arts courses, and/or CTE courses. Courses offered:
  - World Geography
  - Modern World History
  - U.S. History
  - Economics
  - American Government
  - Psychology
  - Art History
  - Art I
  - Multimedia
  - Spanish

Students at Tehipite Middle School work together during the 2014 summer session. This year’s Expanded Learning Summer Program will run June 13-July 13.
Community Invited to Review Funding Report

First Look at the 2017-18 Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP)

The Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) is the district’s plan detailing how it will use Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) state funding to improve academic outcomes for all students.

The plan describes the district’s goals, actions and expenditures for the next three years. More than 140 meetings have been conducted with the Fresno community to receive input on the LCAP.

A draft of the document for the 2017-18 school year will be available for review online beginning April 5. The community is invited to review the draft and provide feedback before the final document is approved by the Fresno Unified Board of Education in June. Information on the plan can be found at www.fresnounified.org.

CART Offers Hands-On Learning in Summer Academy for Grades 4-7

The Center for Advanced Research and Technology (CART) Summer Academy will be held June 12-16 from 8-11:30 a.m.

The academy offers incoming fourth through seventh grade students the opportunity to participate in hands-on learning experiences. The labs offered are Builders’ Workshop, Drama & Performance Art, Game Design, Lemonade Stand Micro-business, Mini-Med School, Movie Magic, Optical Illusions, and Robotics.

The cost is $199 for applications completed by June 5 and $250 for applications completed after June 5. The deadline for applications is June 9, although space is limited. Visit cart.org for more information or call (559) 248-7400.

During the regular school year, CART offers a half-day program for juniors and seniors specializing in hands-on pathway learning in a variety of career areas. CART is a joint project of the Fresno Unified and Clovis Unified school districts.

DESIGN SCIENCE
Continued from page 1

make it even easier for our students to push ahead with college courses and accelerate their pursuit of higher education and ultimately a career,” said interim superintendent Bob Nelson. “Our partnership with Fresno City College continues to be a huge plus for our students.”

Carole Goldsmith, president at Fresno City College, noted that the early college high school movement and successful partnerships between community colleges and local high schools began in 1974 at LaGuardia Community College in New York.

“We are eager to begin the next phase of planning with the recently board-approved institutional planner. This will provide students with the opportunity to continue completing an associate degree and high school diploma,” Goldsmith said.

Since opening its doors in 2005, Design Science has soared in popularity and has a waiting list of students for the 2017-18 school year. This year’s enrollment is 237.

Gloria Martinez-Guzman, a 17-year-old senior at Design Science, has earned 48 college credits and is working toward more. She will graduate high school with an associate degree this semester and head to Grand Canyon University in Phoenix in the fall as a junior. Because she will start college with so many college credits, she plans to graduate with a master’s degree in business marketing in about three years.

Gloria is excited about Design Science’s move to the City College campus.

“Relocating Design Science onto Fresno City College will increase the student’s safety by no longer having the students cross Blackstone,” Gloria said. “The students will also be able to stay in their high school classes a little longer, which in turn allows the students to learn more.”

Miriam Zuniga is an 18-year-old senior with 38 college credits and expects to have 11 more before she graduates. Her top choice of schools is University of California at Davis. Her goal is a master’s degree in psychology and graduate school.

Miriam said the move will put students closer to resources such as tutoring and Student Services.

“Unfortunately, I will not be able to witness this new establishment, but this high school will always be a second home to me and knowing that others will get to enjoy it as much as me is more than enough,” Miriam said.

Last year, 100% of students graduated, with 94% of graduating seniors offered admission to a four-year university last school year. Eighty-six percent of students were first-generation college students.

The school expects 100% of its students this year to be accepted to four-year colleges. The class of 2017 includes two National Hispanic Scholars, with one admitted to Princeton on a full-ride scholarship; a semi-finalist National Merit Scholar; the school’s first international admissions offer, to University of Glasgow; and five students are on track to receive their Associate of Arts degree by the time they graduate from high school.

Design Science principal Tressa Overstreet said serving the students of Design Science has been “life changing.”

“The fierce determination and resiliency of our students is remarkable,” Overstreet said. “There are days their accomplishments leave me speechless.”

She said the Design Science staff is dedicated to “changing our community through equitable access to education.”

“Design Science is a special place because of our staff and the students we are honored to serve. Fresno City College is a key part of our team in presenting college opportunities to every single student,” Overstreet said.

Design Science senior Manuel Alcantar, 17, has more than 30 college credits from City College. He hopes to attend UCLA, major in political science and pursue law school.

“Tressa Overstreet is the most amazing teacher I’ve ever had,” Manuel said.

“I am truly excited because our school, which has always outperformed district and state standards, finally will receive the campus they deserve,” Manuel said.

“Design Science is a special place because of our staff and the students we are honored to serve. Fresno City College is a key part of our team in presenting college opportunities to every single student,” Overstreet said.
New Emergency Alert System Underway

The district launched a new system in February for notifying parents and guardians quickly of a campus emergency.

Rapid Alert sends a text message to the cell phones of parents, guardians and emergency contacts if an incident occurs on campus that will disrupt the school day or require an early dismissal.

Parents who missed the opportunity to “opt in” in February can still register. From their cell phones, parents simply text the word “YES” to 67587 to receive future notifications in the event of an emergency at their child’s school.

This effort was part of the club’s mission to beautify the community and raise awareness about plastic pollution. The group collected more than 50 pounds of garbage along Huntington Boulevard that would have ended up in storm drains. One student wondered out loud, “What can we do to get people to make less garbage?” Change starts with awareness. Awareness leads to action. Action leads to results.

Present New Library Stools

The Starr Elementary School first grade Kind Kids Club carried out acts of kindness during Random Acts of Kindness Week Feb. 12-18, including surprising the school librarian with brand new stools and placing kindness bookmarks in books throughout the library. Students also used sidewalk chalk to write inspirational messages and created “kindness capes” for their kindergarten friends.

The week culminated with the donation of sensory objects to their peers with autism and the honoring of crossing guard dads.

Edison, Sunnyside Seniors Win Prestigious CSF Award

Edison High School senior Hollie Osburn and Sunnyside High School senior Navleen Brar are among only 50 students in California selected as Seymour Award recipients for the California Scholarship Federation. The award is one of the highest scholastic honors given to graduating seniors in the state, and is an adviser-nominated award for academic achievement and service.

Hollie has applied to a number of UC campuses -- her top choice is UC Davis -- with the goal of becoming a doctor. Navleen has been accepted to the Smittcamp Honors Program at Fresno State University and is waiting to hear from her other top choices, UCLA and UC Davis.

Roosevelt Ecology Club Spruces up Huntington Boulevard

Several members of Roosevelt High School’s Ecology Club volunteered after school Feb. 15 to help clean up nearby Huntington Boulevard, one of Fresno’s most iconic residential streets.

The group collected more than 50 pounds of garbage along Huntington Boulevard that would have ended up in storm drains. One student wondered out loud, “What can we do to get people to make less garbage?” Change starts with awareness. Awareness leads to action. Action leads to results.

Edison Robotics Students Head to World Championship

Edison High School robotics students are headed to the VEX Robotics World Championship in Louisville, Ky. April 19-22 after one of the school’s teams won the “Build” award at the state competition in Bakersfield March 3-4.

The Louisville event brings together the world’s best robotics teams, including the top 540 high school teams. Edison’s VEX Robotics Team 3495F -- Christopher Casillas and Hudson Dorian -- earned a spot at the VEX Worlds for their detailed design notebook and efficient and reliable robotic design. The team impressed the judges during their interview and validated Edison High School’s engineering program, said teacher adviser Yashpaul Sangha. In addition, the robotics team of Jesus Nieblas and Jordan Wong finished in the top 10 at the state championships. All four students will work together to research and assemble a brand new robot in the coming weeks to improve their chances of winning at the World Championship.
Como “Distrito Escolar Lugar Seguro,” el Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno no facilitará ni participará en las actividades de agentes de ICE a las propiedades escolares o del distrito sin cumplir con los requisitos aplicables de otras autoridades que aplican las leyes estatales y federales; y no se liberará al estudiante a los agentes de ICE sin el consentimiento del padres o menos que se obligue al distrito a hacerlo. 

La designación “Lugar Seguro” también, significa que el Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno se asociará con organizaciones comunitarias que proveerán recursos para las familias que enfrentan deportación.

La resolución refleja la diversidad del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno, mencionando que hay 63 lenguajes que se hablan en las escuelas del distrito, incluyendo español, hmong, armenio, coreano, tagalo, chino cantonés, árabe, vietnamita y ruso.

Nelson dijo, “Al reafirmar públicamente nuestro compromiso de educar a todos los estudiantes, esperamos que las familias se sientan tranquilas en relación a las escuelas del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno que son un lugar seguro para que los estudiantes aprendan, alcancen sus sueños y se preparen para el mejor futuro posible una vez que ellos se gradúan de nuestras escuelas”.

**SAFE PLACE**

Continued from page 4

instalaciones del distrito serían una “interrupción severa al ambiente de aprendizaje y educativo para los estudiantes”. También menciona que la habilidad para que los estudiantes logren el rendimiento académico se debilitaría por la destitución de los miembros de la familia durante las actividades de agentes de ICE, que pueden dejar a los estudiantes sin alguien que cuide de ellos.

Como “Distrito Escolar Lugar Seguro,” el Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno no facilitará ni participará en las actividades de agentes de ICE a las propiedades escolares o del distrito sin cumplir con los requisitos aplicables de otras autoridades que aplican las leyes estatales y federales; y no se liberará al estudiante a los agentes de ICE sin el consentimiento del padre a menos que se obligue al distrito a hacerlo.

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**SAFE PLACE School District**

*Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawn Ntawv Tau Pom Zoo Txoej Cai Lub Chaw Nyob Nyab Xeeb*  

Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawn Ntawv tau hluov nws qho kov cog lus los pab txhua tus tub kawn ntawv, txawm laws qho neeg khiav teb tsiv chaw yuav zooci los xij, muab kev pom zoo rau “Lub Hauv Paus Tsev Kawn Ntawv Chaw Nyob Nyab Xeeb” coob tug tau los plov meej pov suab thaum thawj coj lub rooj sib tham rau lub Peb Hlis tim.

“Qhov kev txiw txim siab no mus txhaj li qhov hais tias tej sев kawn ntawv yeg tej chaw nyob nyab xeeb uas tub kawn ntawv tau txiais tag nrho tej kev txhawb pab tsim nyog thiab kev nrui siab rau lawv kev nrui ntsel rau rau tej kev txhawj xeeb ntsel seng txw txhawb kev khiav teb tsiv chaw (immigration laws).”

“Qhov kev txiw txim siab no kuj tseeq hais txog tbq ho qho kev siv kev npaj uas peb yuav tau npaj muab rau peb cob cov kawn ntawv thib cov yim tseeq neeg nrog tej kev txhawb pab tsim nyog thiab kev nrui siab rau lawv kev nrui ntsel rau rau tej kev txhawj xeeb ntsel seng txw txhawb kev khiav teb tsiv chaw (immigration laws).”

Pawg thawj coj tau txiais kev tawm tswv yim los ntawm neeg zej zog, tej pej xem, tej tub kawn ntawv thib tej niem txiv ua ntej los muab kev suab pom zoo yuav qho kev txiw txim siab no.

Qhov kev txiw txim siab txhawb hauv paus psev kawn ntawv tej cai tam sim no, tej kev ua, thiab tej kev taug ua, xam nrog rau:

• Tchua tus tub kawn ntaww muaj txoj cai rau pej xem xeej kev kawn txuj ci txawj yuav niyyam qho kev khiav teb tsiv chaw zoo li los xij (immigration status)

• Thxawb kev ua taus siab ntei thiab txiais yuav lus ntxub ntxaug

• Thxawb pawg thawj coj kev kawn txuj ci qhoog cog lus rau hauv paus psev kawn ntawv Ntawv Hauv Paus Neeg, Cev Nqaj Ncees thiab Ntxiv Rau Tsaal Cai 0411

• Txuas ntxiv hauv paus psev kawn ntawv ntawv tsai cai tias hauv paus psev kawn ntawv tsis thow, tsis muab, los yog tuav tej ntaub ntaww mhhaw tseg muaj feem rau neeg khiav teb tsiv chaw li cas (immigration status)

• Xyuas kom tsev kawn ntawv cov tsev xwm muab kev pab thiab tsev kawn ntawv tub ceev xwm muab kev pab hauv zej zog tsev kawn ntaww yuav fwm lub Nroog Fresno tsab cai ntaww tsis muab kev koom tseg teu kawm tsawj khiav teb tsiv chaw (immigration enforcement)

• Fwm “Immigration Customs Enforcement” tsab cai muaj uas txhewb kev cai ntaww yuaw kev cai ntaww yuaw kev cai teev cai (immigration enforcement)

Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawn Ntawv qho kev txiw txim siab tau teev tias ICE tej dej num sab hauv thiab ib puag nqig tej tej sев kawn ntaww thiab hauv paus kev kawn ntaww tej chaw lwm qhov chaw yuav yig ib qho “kev cuam tshum loj rau txoj kev kawn ntaww thiab hauv kawn txuj ci rau tej tub kawn ntaww.”

“Nws kuj tseeq tsev tseg tias tej tub kawn ntaww yuav tsis muaj peev kawn tau zoo yuav thauwm tcig ICE muab tsev yim neeg ib tug twg tsawm thawj kuj qhov yuav tej tub kawn ntaww yuav tom qab tsis muaj leej twg yuav los saib los xuyas lawv.

Tam li ib qho “Hauv Paus Tsev Kawn Ntaww Chaw Nyob Nyab Xeeb,” Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawn Ntaww yuav tsis coj los yog muaj kev koom hues tau dej num tsww neeg khiav tsiv chaw (immigration enforcement activities), txuas puv nqo cai los ntawm txoj cai: ICE agents yuav tsis pub tso ci nkag hauv tej tej kawn ntaww los yog hauv paus tsev kawn ntaww tej chaw yam tsis ua raws li tej kev tseeq kom muaj siv tau rau lwm lub xeej thiab tej kom tsww zeg kev tsiv; thiab yuav tsis tso ib tug tub kawn ntaww twg rau ICE yam tsis tau kev tso lus los ntawm niamb txiv tswj tias hauv paus tsev kawn ntaww raug tsev kom ua los ntawm txoj cai nkaus xwb.

“Chaw Nyob Nyab Xeeb” chaw tswj tseg kuj txhais tau tias Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawn Ntaww yuav koom tes nrog zeg zog kev cuam tej koen haum npaj muaj tej chaw rau tej yam tsww neeg ra xaw rau qab.

Qhov kev txiw txim siab hais txog Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawn Ntaww qho kev taug yam, pom tau tias muaj 63 hom lus hais yuav no rau hauv paus psev kawn ntaww, xam nrog rau Spanish, Hmong, Armenian, Korean, Tagalog, Cantonese, Arabic, Vietnamese thiab Russian.

“Nyob qhiv lub rau yov rau meej peb qho kev cog lus los qhia txhua tus tub kawn ntaww tias, peb cia siab ua kom peb tej yam tseeq neeg hauv Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawn Ntaww yig ib lub chaw yuab xeeb rau rau tej tub kawn ntaww tau kawn, raws raws lawv qho kev npau sauv, thiab npaj lub neej zoo rau tom ntej thauwm laww tawm ntaww pem tej sев kawn ntaww mus,” Nelson hais li.

www.FresnoUnified.org | PREPARING CAREER READY GRADUATES | APRIL 2017

Page 13
Storey Elementary Fifth-Grader Bounces Back to Win Spelling Bee

Storey Elementary School student Sharleen Her was disappointed in her fourth-place finish last year at her campus’ spelling bee -- not good enough to advance her to the district competition. She was determined to do better the next year.

With the correct spelling of “malleable,” Sharleen won it all at this year’s Feb. 7 district spelling bee. She placed fourth out of 48 elementary students in the Fresno County Spell-Off March 15.

Sharleen, a fifth-grader, competed against 57 students in grades 4-6 from 19 elementary schools at the district event, held at Sunnyside High School’s theater.

She came into the event much better prepared. A year ago, Sharleen’s parents, Ronald and Amy Her, were surprised at how competitive and intense the elementary spelling bee was. Seeing Sharleen’s passion and dedication, they vowed to be more involved and encouraged her to continue.

“We have your back if this is what you want to do,” Ronald Her said.

As promised, her parents provided guidance for study sessions. But they credit Sharleen’s success to her love of reading and her drive and ability to focus and study on her own.

To prepare for the Fresno County Spell-Off, Sharleen studied 20-30 minutes each day using her Merriam dictionary app to help with pronunciation and word origin.

To help her remember tough words, she applied her own unique way of studying the word in detail.

“I love to find something funny or weird to associate with the word and then I say it in my own way,” Sharleen said.

She also took to heart tips from her dad to help her on stage: slow down, think about the word, and spell it to yourself.

Studying to be a spelling bee champ is not all that keeps Sharleen occupied. She enjoys cuddling with a good book every day. One of her favorites is “Auggie and Me,” the story of Auggie Pullman, a boy born with extreme facial abnormalities who changes the lives and the perspectives of other students around him at a prep school.

Sharleen loves how the chapters show the different perspectives of three characters -- Julian the bully; Christopher, Auggie’s oldest friend; and Charlotte, his new classmate and friend.

Sharleen likes all her teachers and participates in drama, choir, and cheer.

“I love to sing and dance and I want to be a singer or actress, but I think my mom wants me to be a pharmacist,” she said.

Ronald and Amy Her are very proud of Sharleen’s accomplishment and always encourage her to follow her passions.

Sharleen Her, a fifth-grader at Storey Elementary School, won the Fresno Unified spelling bee Feb. 7 with the correct spelling of “malleable.”

Learn about the impacts of STOREFRONT ADVERTISING on our children...

Did you know?

- Covering store windows with signs creates an unsafe environment for law enforcement, firefighters, customers and clerks during emergency situations.
- Ads influence our children to try unhealthy products such as tobacco, sugary drinks, and alcohol.
- Fewer signs can create a safe and healthier community.
- The City of Fresno and other cities in Fresno County have adopted policies that limit storefront signs.

Find out more about these policies and how you can be involved.

Visit: www.fcdph.org/storefront

Madre possible with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s National Implementation and Dissemination for Chronic Disease Prevention Initiative.
Al momento que me siento a escribir mi primer mensaje del periódico Building Futures como Superintendente interino, permítanme decirles en primer lugar, que estoy comovido y honrado de la enorme muestra de apoyo de los empleados del distrito, la comunidad y la mesa educativa mientras inicio esta nueva tarea.

A pesar de que he pasado 23 años de mi vida adulta trabajando para el distrito, sé que la educación es básicamente acerca de las relaciones, así que pensé que debería compartir un poco más acerca de mí mismo, más allá de los pocos fragmentos o reproducciones que se ven en la televisión o se leen en el periódico. A parte de ser catedrático, soy esposo y padre de siete hijos maravillosos cuyas edades promedian de 20 años a 16 meses de edad de los gemelos, incluyendo a un adolescente con parálisis cerebral. Guiados por nuestra fe, mi esposa Tiffany y yo, hemos sentido la necesidad de apoyar a los niños de nuestra comunidad y hemos pasado varios años como padres de crianza teniendo como resultado la adopción de cuatro de nuestros siete hijos.

Más allá de mi familia, mi amor y mi pasión están en la educación. He sido maestro del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno, subdirector, director y administrador de recursos humanos, antes de regresar al distrito hace dos años, serví como Superintendente del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Chawanake en el Condado de Madera. Doy clases en la universidad Fresno State una noche por semana en el programa de consejería y actualmente estoy terminando mi doctorado en la Universidad del Sur de California. Como un aprendiz para toda la vida, creo que la educación es la clave del éxito y deseo que nuestros estudiantes tengan todas las oportunidades para el éxito. De antemano sé el arduo trabajo que desempeñan nuestros estudiantes y el personal a diario y estoy muy agradecido por sus enormes esfuerzos.

Para concluir, mi enfoque y del distrito sigue siendo el mismo: Asegurar que nuestros estudiantes se gradúen del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno con el mayor número de opciones de postsecundaria de la gama más amplia. Mientras nos dirigimos al final del ciclo escolar 2016/17, sólo nos restan unos cuantos meses para obtener los resultados del aprendizaje estudiantil. Aunque este es el primer año que vimos avances en el desarrollo de los exámenes estatales (Smarter Balanced) (SBAC) en todos los grupos de nuestros estudiantes, todavía estamos lejos de alcanzar nuestra meta la cual menciona que, “Todos los estudiantes sobresaldrán en lectura, escritura y matemáticas.” Es crucialmente importante que nuestra comunidad sepa que nuestras Metas del Distrito no han cambiado y todavía estamos avanzando tomando el brazo para apoyar a todos nuestros estudiantes todos los días.

Si bien hemos avanzado, todavía tenemos trabajo importante por delante como equipo, para alcanzar nuestra meta donde TODOS los estudiantes, reunirán y sobresaldrán en estos niveles. Actualmente, un tercio de los estudiantes han logrado reunir o exceder los estándares en artes de lenguaje inglés y sólo un poco más de una quinta parte en matemáticas. Esta realidad representa un constante llamado de acción.

Una vez más, hemos hechos significantes avances y mejoras y estoy muy agradecido por el apoyo comunitario que hemos recibido en este esfuerzo. Mientras que estoy celebrando todas las pequeñas victorias y mejoras, también tenemos que establecermos nosotros mismos ante la realidad que nuestros estudiantes todavía necesitan nuestro apoyo, junto con los padres y nuestra comunidad en general, para cerrar la brecha del rendimiento académico. ¡Estoy seguro que con el apoyo de la comunidad podemos hacer cualquier cosa que fijemos en nuestras mentes!

Kuj Tseem Tsis Tai Hloov'
Raws li kuv zaum los sau kuv thawj xov “Building Futures” tam li tus tuam thawj saib kev kwam ib ntus, cia kuv xub los hais tias kuv txausa siab thiaj kev saib muaj nqis los ntawv coob leej ntus tuas muab kev txhawb pab los ntawv hauv pauv tsev kwam ntawv coev neag ua hauj lwj, lub jez lub los thiaj coev thawj coev kev kwam txuj ci raws li kuv tuab pib tes dej num tshiaj.

Tib lub sij hawm kwam tuav sui tiv sij hawm li 23 lub xyoos ntawv kuv lub neej laus ua hauj lwj hauv pauv tsev kwam ntawv, kuv pauv thiaj kev kwam txuj ci teem ceeb heev txog kuv sib raag zog, yog li kev thiaj xav tiaj kuv yuav tsun tau muab los qhia me ntsiv txog kuv tus kheej, thiaj ntawv qee yam luz neej tau thiaj hnvk hauv rau TV los yog tej ntawv xwm. Sb naunus us ua ib tug tub txawg, kuv yog ib tug txiv thiaj ib leej txiv rau xya tug me nyuam uus zos thiaj plaawz huub nyyog li ntaww 20 xyoos rau 16 lub hlii me nyuam ntxiax, xam norag rau tug me nyuam hluas xiam oo qhiaj. Kev coev los ntawv pab kev nqaj neces, kuv pojnim Tiffany thiaj kuv ib txwmm ntxawh ib qho kuv txhawb pab cov me nyuam yaus haub pab kev leej zog lub zos, thiaj saiv sui sij hawm ntev loo tam li niam txiv qhavh, tsxwm sim kev txais plaub tug me nyuamu tu ntawm wb xya tug.

Thiaj ntaww kuv tsev neeg, kuv nyiamp thiaj txawj xoj kev kwam txuj ci. Kuv tau ua dua Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kwam Ntawv ib tug xib fbw qhia ntaww, lwmm thiaj coev tsev kwam ntaww, thawj coev tsev kwam ntaww, thiaj coev pab tib neeg, thiaj ua ntej rau los rau hauv pauv tsev kwam ntaww lub xyoos dhau los, kuv taua ua tam li ib tug tuam thawj saib kev kwam hauv Chawanake Unified hauv Madera County. Kuv qhia ntaub ntaww hauv Fresno State ib liam tiam ib hmo rau “Counseling Program” thiaj tam li sim no kuv kwam tiav kuv daim “doctoral degree” hauv University of Southern California. Tam li ib tug kwam tas lub neej, kuv nteeg tiaj kwam txuj ci yog tius yuam sui rau kev kwam taua thiaj kuv xav xam pib cov tu kwam ntawv muaj txhua lub nkeaj ke rau kev kwam taav. Kuv pauv tiaj pab cov tu kwam ntawv thiaj cov neeg khiav hauj lwj ua hauj lwj nyuaj nqum lwa xthua huub thiaj kuv zow siab kawg nkaus rau lawv kev sib zog u.

Mux koj xaus, kuv qhov kev tig ntsovv
PREKINDERGARTEN/PRESCHOOL

Prekindergarten, los yog preschool, yog ib qho kev kawm tsis raug txub nqi dab tsi muaj pub rau tej yim tsev neeg nws nyob rau hauv cheeb tsam Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv tus nrim av. Tag nrho tej yim tsev neeg muaj me nyuam hnub nyoog 4 xyoos txog thauh lub Kaum Ob Hlsi tim 2, 2017 raug txhawb kom mus cuv npe. Cov pob ntawv cuv npe muaj nyob rau txhua lub tsev kawm ntawv them qis. Xav paub ntau ntxiv txog tej kev ua cuv npe preschool, hu tau rau Early Learning Department ntawm (559) 457-3682.

TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN

Transitional kindergarten (TK) yog thawj xyoo ntawm ib txoj kev kawm ob-xyooos ntawm kindergarten. TK yog tsim los rau cov tub kawm ntawv nws lub hnub yug poob mus rau ntawm lub Cuaj Hli tim 2, 2017. TK npaj muaj txoj hau kev qhiv rau kev haum xeeb thiab txawj lus thiab tej hauv pau lej thiab tej ntsiab paub ntawv. Tom qab xyoo ib, transitional kindergartners nce mus rau ib chav traditional kindergarten rau xyoo ob.


Tej yim tsev neeg nws tseem tsis tau paub meej seb lawv tus me nyuam yuav mus kawm rau lub tsev kawm ntawv twg yuav tsum tau mus saib Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv lub chaw nruab ntug ntawm www.fresnounified.org los yog hu rau (559) 457-3351 thiab hauv paus tsev kawm ntawv cov neeg khiav dej num yuav pab qhia tau qhov chaw lub tsev kawm ntawv them qis yog yuav raws li koj lub chaw nyob.

Yog tias ib tug me nyuam twg tab tom tau txais kev pab kawm txuaj ci tshwj xeeb, hu rau Special Education lub chaw ua hauj lwm ntawm (559) 457-3220.