The district and its employees are moving forward in a new spirit of collaboration after reaching an agreement on salary and other issues following nearly 18 months of negotiations.

After working through the night, bargaining teams from the district and the Fresno Teachers Association (FTA) reached a tentative agreement on Jan. 17. FTA members were expected to approve the agreement, as was the Fresno Unified Board of Education.

“I look forward to working with our FTA partners in beginning the healing process -- a process I am confident will prove easier because we avoided a teacher work stoppage. This agreement was a win for both our organization and most importantly, our students,” said Superintendent Bob Nelson.

The agreement includes:

- **Salary**: 3.5% ongoing salary increase retroactive to July 1, 2016, a 2% ongoing salary increase effective July 1, 2017, minimum of 1% salary increase and up to a maximum of 3% ongoing based upon contingency formula for the 2018-19 funding under the Local Control Funding Formula for a total of 8.5% increase.

- **Health Care**: District will pay approximately $18,000 per employee per year, providing a 90/10 coinsurance benefit level with maximum out-of-pocket cost for single plan $2,500; maximum out-of-pocket for family $5,000; district will maintain these benefit levels/premiums through 2018-19.

- **Class Size**: Transitional kindergarten through 12th grade will have class size reductions districtwide effective the 2018-19 school year (TK-3 1:24 ratio; 4-6 1:29 ratio; 7-12 1:29 (core classes only, including foreign language). District is eliminating all TK-6 combination classes through a phased in approach starting next school year.

- **Hours**: Professional learning/accountable communities reduced by nine hours per year, freeing up more time for teachers.

- **Nurses**: July 1, 2019 board investments to include an increase in registered nurse staffing to 63 full-time equivalents, three more nurses than the district had already planned for.

- **Adult Education**: As previously agreed, reduce duty days by five with another five days effective July 1, 2019 with no change in salary.

- **Working Conditions**: FTA and district to create a School Climate and Safety Committee to address safety concerns with language that promotes district-teacher collaboration in addressing discipline concerns.

- **Special Education**: In February 2018, FTA and district to establish a collaborative committee to address shared goals for improvement.

The agreement will result in additional salary increases for all district employees in accordance with the district’s “me too” clause.

In a press event Jan. 17 to announce the tentative agreement, board President Elizabeth Jonasson Rosas and Nelson underscored the goal to establish more collaboration with employees.

“As the board president, my New Year’s resolution is to lead our district with the individuals standing with me in a more collaborative and student centric way that avoids unnecessary conflict and takes attention away from the needs of students and families,” Jonasson Rosas said.

“By successfully finishing this marathon as a unified school district, we are turning the page on a new

See **NEGLIGENCE**
Continued on page 5
Parent University Announces Courses for the Spring

Parent University offers a variety of classes and activities to help parents better support their students’ academic progress. The first spring cohort of parent learning includes several four week courses from Feb. 13 through March 9:

- Transition to Middle School Module
- Transition to High School Module
- Transition to 12th Grade
- Ready to Learn, Valley PBS
- Neighborhood Revitalization, City of Fresno

The second spring cohort, from April 10 through May 4, includes:

- Special Education
- PBS
- Neighborhood Revitalization
- Transition to Middle School
- Standalone Sessions

Parents can also tour middle school and high school campuses, participate in a Parent Leadership Academy and Hispanic Residents Policy Academy and take classes through Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQUE).

For a complete listing of courses and activities, go to https://www.fresnou.org/dept/parentu.

Fresno High Taps into Hot Job Market with HVAC Program

■ February is CTE Month

The district recently launched a new program at Fresno High School that provides career training in the heating and cooling industry and gives students a head start on earning certification at Fresno City College.

The HVAC program at Fresno High is the newest addition to the district’s continuously expanding career technical education (CTE) offerings. CTE provides students with the academic and technical skills, knowledge and training necessary to be college and career ready when they graduate from high school.

Fresno High Principal Elisa Messing said the addition of the program reflects student interest and the needs of the region and community.

When students returned Jan. 8 from the winter break to start the second semester, a cohort of 15 students began the new HVAC program with an Introduction to HVAC class at Fresno City College.

For the 2018-19 school year, two HVAC courses will be available for students: HVAC 50 and HVAC 51. Students will also take a Personal and Professional Skills course and participate with job shadowing and pre-apprenticeships.

The program is available to juniors and seniors. It gives students a chance to earn college credit and – if they meet the requirements – guarantees them a seat in the HVAC program at Fresno City College when they graduate. They can complete HVAC certification or earn an associate’s degree.

Employment for heating, air conditioning, and refrigeration mechanics and installers is projected to grow 15% from 2016 to 2026, much faster than the average for all occupations in the San Joaquin Valley, said Keisha Shabazz, the International Baccalaureate Career Program coordinator for the Fresno Unified School District.

See CTE NEW PROGRAM Continued on page 10
SUPERINTENDENT’S Message

Fresno Unified Welcomes the Support of Community Partners

“Believe you can and you’re half way there.” These wise words once spoken by President Theodore Roosevelt never seemed more appropriate than they do today -- whether it applies to keeping your New Year’s resolutions, finding agreement with those you have been at odds with, or helping students find academic success as they become college and career ready.

For many students, believing they can succeed takes more than just a leap of faith or self-confidence -- it takes community support. We saw some of that support this past December as employees and our community stepped up to provide students with warm coats, food and holiday gifts. We see it in volunteers as they spend time assisting in the classroom, tutoring, serving as a mentor, or even coaching. It’s through these encounters that students begin to see the true possibilities ahead of them.

For our high school students, those possibilities lead to graduating with the greatest number of post-secondary choices from the widest array of options. Thanks in part to a partnership with Fresno City College, we have collectively launched the Central Valley Promise. The promise provides a tuition-free first semester for those seniors looking to go to a local community college. To be eligible, seniors must complete their FAFSA application by the March deadline, have at least a 2.7 cumulative GPA, and have either a-g requirements completed or successful progress in a CTE pathway. This is an especially important program for deserving students concerned that college options may be too far beyond their grasp. Students can learn more by talking to their school counselor or visiting www.centralvalleypromise.org.

This next subject is not as uplifting as assisting district youth discover their college options, but it’s a serious one for our community and our district are grappling with -- human trafficking.

As the fourth largest school district in the state, our community and our district are

Message from Fresno City Council Member Luis Chavez

The City of Fresno and Fresno Unified School District: A Partnership that Matters

As a former Fresno Unified trustee and now a city council member, I’m honored to partner with the district on a number of projects to improve services to students, and the residents we serve. The joint use green/blue space agreement serves our constituents and children with vital community services and exercise programs. Now, more than ever, it is important to collaborate across all levels of government to ensure we are maximizing taxpayer dollars.

The need for additional park space in our city has always been challenging. Working together, Fresno Unified and the city have closed the gap in the parkland shortage our community faces. During the recession, the city of Fresno’s parks department endured severe cuts and a reduction in services. With the economy improving, we now have an opportunity to reinvest in our parks and ensure our children throughout our city have access to recreational activities. This partnership between the district and the PARCS department utilizes seven of the district’s high school pools and green spaces from June through early August, offering safe community access to swimming lessons, water safety, and recreational programs.

Transportation for our residents continues to be a challenge. We know that the majority of city bus riders are students and seniors. With the introduction of the Bus Rapid Transit system in February 2018, bus service will allow for more transportation with 10 minute intervals for district students. Collaborating with the district, Fresno Area Express (FAX) is working to include extended night and weekend service that allows district students increased access to recreational programs. FAX is working to increase headways along major routes and providing the convenience of the smart card technology to district students and our residents. The smart card service will allow easier access to bus service without the need for cash transactions or transfer slips. FAX will continue to assess bus routes and timing to find the best way to deploy most recent investments in the system in a manner that best benefits district students and the residents of Fresno.

Clean air and transportation are high priorities for the district and the city of Fresno. Both the city and Fresno Unified currently utilize alternative fuel buses powered by clean air gas. The city and district strive to always put children first when it comes to healthy air quality and safe transportation.

The city of Fresno and the district partnered to secure state dollars to support the “Safe Routes to School” Program for our disadvantaged neighborhoods. This program provides funding for safe and accessible sidewalks, curb, and gutter pathways and supports the district’s “Walk to School Day” in the early fall and “Bike to School Day” in the spring. These events encourage more biking and walking, with pedestrian safety not being a barrier.

Investments by our city’s Public Works Department will help build a safer Fresno by maintaining and strip-
Athletics Elementary/Middle School Semesters 1 Highlights

Elementary School
Girls Volleyball
District Tournament
• 1st Manchester GATE – Head Coach Tom Wright
• 2nd Lane
• 3rd Thomas
• 4th Gibson
• 5th Columbia
• 6th King
• 7th Ayer
• 8th Calwa

Flag Football
District Championships
• 1st Gibson – Head Coach Bob Teague
• 2nd Manchester GATE
• 3rd Viking
• 4th Kirk
• 5th Malloch
• 6th Eastery
• 7th Muir
• 8th Holland

Middle School

Fifth Grade Boys Division
• 1st Manchester GATE
• 2nd Eastery
• 3rd Forkner

Sixth Grade Girls Division
• 1st Manchester GATE
• 2nd Eastery
• 3rd Gibson

Sixth Grade Boys Division
• 1st Manchester
• 2nd Anthony
• 3rd Forkner

Sweepstakes Champion: Manchester GATE (23 points) – Head Coach Russ Painter
Sweepstakes Runner-up: Forkner (13 points) – Head Coach Nicole Tafoya

Girls Volleyball
Division 1 League Champions – Tenaya (Head Coach Jason Paul)
Division 2 League Champions – Tioga (Head Coach Michael Dean)
Soccer – Girls
Girls Division 1 League Champions – St. Anthony’s (Head Coach Michelle Gheratza)
Division 2 League Champions – Wawona (Head Coach Victor Leyva)
Tourament Champions – Baird Varsity Tournament
Varsity – 71 lbs
1st Place - Zane Cerda of Terronez
2nd Place - Ben Hernandez of Baird
3rd Place - Victor Tamayo of Fort Miller
4th Place - Alex Pineda of Tenaya
5th Place - Steven Torres of Ahwahnee
6th Place - Xavier Martinez of Cooper

Volleyball
Division 1 League Champions – Gaston (Head Coach Derwood Youngren Jr.)
Division 2 League Champions – Sequoia (Head Coach Ray Medellin)

Football
Division 1 League Champions – Baird (Head Coach Jason Paul)
Division 2 League Champions – Ahwahnee (Head Coach Terry Buck)
Division 1 Tournament Champions – Baird (Head Coach Brian Kahutian)

Cross Country District Championships
Third Grade Girls Division
• 1st Forkner
• 2nd Gilmore
• 3rd Ewing

Third Grade Boys Division
• 1st Roeding
• 2nd Forkner
• 3rd Ewing

Fourth Grade Girls Division
• 1st Roeding
• 2nd Manchester GATE

Fourth Grade Boys Division
• 1st Manchester

Cross Country District Championships

Varsity Girls Division
• 1st Rebeca Coronado – Baird
• 2nd Amara Romero – Comptech
• 3rd Galby Chiefappliegan – Comptech
• 4th Sariyah Copeland – Baird
• 5th Alexis Lopez – Tenaya
• 6th Sarah Renberg – Baird
• 7th Izell Madrigal – Comptech
• 8th Madison Lomqueeze – Tenaya
• 9th Ava Vargus – Baird
• 10th Tramayia Thomas – Hamilton

Varsity Boys Division
• 1st Bryce Weiner – Baird
• 2nd Eric Ramirez – Ahwahnee

Soccer District Tournament
• 1st Yokomi – Head Coach Robert Gonzales
• 2nd Aywensworth
• 3rd Birney
• 4th Belfune
• 5th Erickson
• 6th Malloch
• 7th Columbia
• 8th Centennial

Girls Cross Country
1st Place - Finn Ritchie of Baird
2nd Place - Zabra Nieto-Flores of Baird

Junior varsity - 71 lbs
1st Place - Albert Youen of Cooper
2nd Place - Leo Marquez of Tenaya

Junior varsity - 99 lbs
1st Place - Chris Ybarsa of Ahwahnee
2nd Place - Gabriel Guajardo of Tenaya
3rd Place - Joel Herrera of Yosemite
4th Place - Angelina Martinez of Tioga
5th Place - Aleah Ramirez of Comptech

Junior varsity - 106 lbs
1st Place - George Zamora of Yosemite
2nd Place - Josh Quinones of Cooper
3rd Place - Mckenna Gridley of Scandinavian

Senior varsity - 113 lbs
1st Place - Chris Ybarsa of Ahwahnee
2nd Place - Gabriel Guajardo of Tenaya
3rd Place - Joel Herrera of Yosemite
4th Place - Angelina Martinez of Tioga
5th Place - Zane Thomas of Ahwahnee
6th Place - Jassiah Vanazuza of Baird

Junior varsity - 121 lbs
1st Place - Ryan Steele of Baird
2nd Place - Leo Ramirez of Scandinavian
3rd Place - Alexis Avila of Yosemite
4th Place - Cameron Gonzalez of Ahwahnee
5th Place - Armando Hernandez of Gaston

Junior varsity - 137 lbs
1st Place - Shane McCleary of Cooper
2nd Place - Edward Rodriguez of Cooper
3rd Place - Alejandro Lopez of Baird
4th Place - Matthew Garcia of Wawona
5th Place - Keoortnahk Nic of Kings Canyon
6th Place - Gregorio Oregon of Gaston

Junior varsity - 145 lbs
1st Place - Ariadne Gonzalez-Millan of Wawona
2nd Place - Edward Rodriguez of Cooper
3rd Place - Alejandro Lopez of Baird
4th Place - Matthew Garcia of Wawona
5th Place - Keoortnahk Nic of Kings Canyon
6th Place - Gregorio Oregon of Gaston

Women's Basketball

Gymnastics

Wrestling
Division 1 League Champions – Sequoia (Head Coach Anthony Godinez)

Division 1 League Champions – Ahwahnee (Head Coach Terry Buck)
Division 1 Tournament Champions – Baird (Head Coach Brian Kahutian)

Sweepstakes Champion: Manchester GATE (23 points) – Head Coach Russ Painter
Sweepstakes Runner-up: Forkner (13 points) – Head Coach Nicole Tafoya

Tom Wright
2nd Forkner
1st Easterby
2nd Manchester
3rd Gibson

2nd Place - Seth Vang of Kings Canyon
6th Place - Justen Garcia of Scandinavian

5th Place - Noah Uresti of Tioga

6th Place - Noah Uresti of Tioga

1st Place - Sammy Trevino of Tenaya
2nd Place - Dj Taylor of Scandinavian
3rd Place - Jeremiah Nuth of Kings Canyon
4th Place - Koda Lamamuzzi of Baird
5th Place - David Gillen of Tioga
6th Place - Jose Castro of Terronez

Varsity - 121 lbs
1st Place - Phi Nguyen of Kings Canyon
2nd Place - Mates Vasquez of Baird
3rd Place - Isac Gil of Comptech
4th Place - Adrian Perez of Ahwahnee
5th Place - Tom Veankhm of Yosemite
6th Place - Deven Hem of Scandinavian

Varsity - 129 lbs
1st Place - Jonathon Mendoza of Yosemite
2nd Place - Xavier Prado of Comptech
3rd Place - Cody Brown of Ahwahnee
4th Place - Kaden Martinez of Tenaya
5th Place - Jordan Cortez of Terronez
6th Place - Justen Garcia of Scandinavian

Varsity - 137 lbs
1st Place - Daniel Macias of Wawona
2nd Place - Navon Chapelle of Gaston
3rd Place - Ben Valles of Scandinavian
4th Place - Bobby Robinson of Ahwahnee
5th Place - Jesse Davila of Tioga
6th Place - Alex Lucero of Cooper

Varsity - 145 lbs
1st Place - Gabino Rubio of Yosemite
2nd Place - Isaiah Yslas of Cooper
3rd Place - Nazareth Washington of Kings Canyon
4th Place - Mario Pina of Sequoia
5th Place - Ephraim Makely of Baird
6th Place - Caleb Ball of Gaston

Varsity - 153 lbs
1st Place - Damian Calderon-Limon of Baird
2nd Place - Brandon Mendoza of Yosemite
3rd Place - Jai Shon Shiver of Gaston
4th Place - Phillip Rodriguez of Tioga
5th Place - Adon Cardenas of Ahwahnee
6th Place - Taciore Flores of Scandinavian

Varsity - 161 lbs
1st Place - Anthony Ramirez of Terronez
2nd Place - Jacob Evans of Comptech
3rd Place - Adolpho Garcia of Fort Miller
4th Place - Dustin Mello of Tenaya
5th Place - Chris Ortega of Baird
6th Place - Satish Vaje of Yosemite

Varsity - 176 lbs
1st Place - Jerome Hofer of Ahwahnee
2nd Place - Chris Pacheco of Gaston
3rd Place - Alex Guzman of Cooper
4th Place - Lorenzo Martin of Tenaya
5th Place - Juan Murillo of Sequoia
6th Place - Earl White of Terronez

Varsity - 191 lbs
1st Place - Frank Fletcher of Tenaya
2nd Place - Isaiah Yslas of Cooper
3rd Place - Nazareth Washington of Kings Canyon
4th Place - Cameron Gonzalez of Ahwahnee
5th Place - Armando Hernandez of Gaston

Junior varsity - 99 lbs
1st Place - Isaiah Diaz of Ahwahnee
2nd Place - Gabriel Guajardo of Tenaya
3rd Place - Izaac Valencia of Sequoia
4th Place - Abraham Mata of Tehaipite
5th Place - Michael Vargas of Tioga
6th Place - Alexies Phelps of Cooper

ULIS Tournament
Junior Varsity - 71 lbs
1st Place - Finn Ritchie of Baird
2nd Place - Zabra Nieto-Flores of Baird

Junior Varsity - 85 lbs
1st Place - Albert Youen of Cooper
2nd Place - Leo Marquez of Tenaya

Junior Varsity - 99 lbs
1st Place - Tyler Spier of Baird
2nd Place - Nathan Herrera of Tenaya
3rd Place - Joel Herrera of Yosemite
4th Place - Angelina Martinez of Tioga
5th Place - Aera Ramirez of Comptech

Junior Varsity - 106 lbs
1st Place - George Zamora of Yosemite
2nd Place - Josh Quinones of Cooper
3rd Place - Mckenna Gridley of Scandinavian

Junior Varsity - 113 lbs
1st Place - Chris Ybarsa of Ahwahnee
2nd Place - Gabriel Guajardo of Tenaya
3rd Place - Joel Herrera of Yosemite
4th Place - Angelina Martinez of Tioga
5th Place - Zane Thomas of Ahwahnee
6th Place - Jassiah Vanazuza of Baird

Junior Varsity - 121 lbs
1st Place - Ryan Steele of Baird
2nd Place - Leo Ramirez of Scandinavian
3rd Place - Alexis Avila of Yosemite
4th Place - Cameron Gonzalez of Ahwahnee
5th Place - Armando Hernandez of Gaston

Junior Varsity - 137 lbs
1st Place - Shane McCleary of Cooper
2nd Place - Edward Rodriguez of Cooper
3rd Place - Alejandro Lopez of Baird
4th Place - Matthew Garcia of Wawona
5th Place - Keoortnahk Nic of Kings Canyon
6th Place - Gregorio Oregon of Gaston

Junior Varsity - 145 lbs
1st Place - Ariadne Gonzalez-Millan of Wawona
2nd Place - Edward Rodriguez of Cooper
3rd Place - Alejandro Lopez of Baird
4th Place - Matthew Garcia of Wawona
5th Place - Keoortnahk Nic of Kings Canyon
6th Place - Gregorio Oregon of Gaston

Junior Varsity - 153 lbs
1st Place - Juan Gama of Tenaya
2nd Place - Sebastian Gonzales of Baird

GOAL 2: ARTS, ACTIVITIES & ATHLETICS

Student Engagement - Board of Directors

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

DO YOUR PART

PREPARING CAREER READY GRADUATES
Junior Varsity - 161 lbs
1st Place - Victor Sanchez of Abwhamee
2nd Place - Alejandro Gonzalez of Gaston
3rd Place - Ismael Reynolds of Gaston

Junior Varsity - 266 lbs
1st Place - Dereck Cornejo of Wawona
2nd Place - Sebastian Bovrozquez of Tehipte
3rd Place - Simon Pizana of Tehipte
4th Place - Savannah Castellano of Sequoia

Middle School Tournament
Team Scores
Baird: 262
Abwhamee: 243
Tenaya: 213
Gaston: 204
Cooper: 193
Kings Canyon: 167.5
Tioga: 164.5
Oroville: 142
Yosemite: 128
Wawona: 128
Sequoia: 109
Scandinavian: 94
Tehipte: 93
Fort Miller: 80
Computech: 79

High School Semester 1 Athletic Highlights

Boys Cross Country
- **Bullard**: One CMAC medalist; 13 scholar-athletes;
  - Edison: One CMAC medalist; Bryan Banuelos, state qualifier; nine scholar-athletes
  - Fresno: One NYL medalist; Peter Orgill, state qualifier
  - Hoover: Hosted first Regional Cross Country Elementary Championships; two scholar-athletes;
  - McLane: Eliel Payan, state qualifier (39th); six scholar-athletes; district academic team champion (3.34)
  - Roosevelt: Two NYL medalists
  - Sunnyside: Two NYL medalists; five scholar-athletes

Girls Cross Country
- **Bullard**: Two CMAC medalists; Rebecca Coronado, state qualifier (600th); eight scholar-athletes
  - Edison: One CMAC medalist; Sarah Renberg, state qualifier; seven scholar-athletes
  - Fresno: One NYL medalist; Gabriela Jimenez, state qualifier; 10 scholar-athletes
  - Sunnyside: One NYL medalist; three scholar-athletes
  - Hoover: Two scholar-athletes; district academic team champions (3.40)
  - McLane: Two scholar-athletes
  - Roosevelt: One NYL medalist, three scholar-athletes
  - Sunnyside: Jessica Valles, NYL champion and Division III champion (first in school history); Jessica Valles, state qualifier, medalist; two scholar-athletes

Football
- **Bullard**: CMAC co-champion; Marcus Fulcher, CMAC Offensive Player of the Year; Justin Gibson, CMAC Lineman of the Year; five CMAC all-league (one second team); five scholar-athletes; district academic team champions (3.05)
  - Edison: CMAC co-champion; Jay Vance, CMAC Defensive Player of the Year; 14 scholar-athletes; nine CMAC all-league; Jason Murray, CMAC Co-Coach of the Year
  - Fresno High: John L’Heureux, II NYL Athlete of the Year; Division III quarterfinalist; three NYL all-league; one scholar-athlete
  - Hoover: Four NYL all-league (three second team); 10 scholar-athletes
  - McLane: Three NYL all-league; seven scholar-athletes
  - Roosevelt: Amaal Harris, NYL Coach of the Year; Jordan de la Rosa, City/County All Star Game; NYL runner-up; Division IV quarterfinalist; three NYL all-league (four second team); eight scholar-athletes
  - Sunnyside: NYL undefeated champions; Bre’au’n Heights, NYL Most Valuable Player; Sherwin King, NYL Defensive Player of the Year; Division II quarterfinalist; four NYL all-league (seven second team); six scholar-athletes

Boys Water Polo
- **Bullard**: Three CMAC all-league; CMAC champions; Division I quarterfinalist; seven scholar-athletes; district academic team champion (3.25)
  - Edison: Tyler Mkaic,Malcolm Wanless, Seth Freeman and Damien Young, All-Valley; one CMAC all-league (two second team); Division III section champions (first in school history); four scholar-athletes
  - Fresno: Two NYL all-league (one second team); NYL co-champions; Christian Payne, NYL Co-Most Valuable Player
  - Hoover: Two NYL all-league (two second team); NYL co-champions; Division II playoffs; three scholar-athletes
  - McLane: One NYL second team; three scholar-athletes
  - Roosevelt: One NYL second team; two scholar-athletes
  - Sunnyside: One NYL all-league; six scholar-athletes

Girls Golf
- **Bullard**: Lauren Parayo, CMAC champion and So Cal qualifier; one medalist; CMAC co-champions; six scholar-athletes
  - Edison: Academic team champions (3.49) four scholar-athletes
  - Fresno: Five scholar-athletes
  - Hoover: One scholar-athlete
  - McLane: Angie Flores, NYL/CIF qualifier; 4-1 NYL record for a school best; four scholar-athletes

Girls Water Polo
- **Bullard**: Kylee Jansen, CMAC Player of the Year; one CMAC all-league; Division I quarterfinalist; five scholar-athletes
  - Edison: Two CMAC all-league (one second team); eight scholar-athletes; district academic team champions (3.50)
  - Fresno: Two NYL all-league (one second team); two scholar-athletes
  - McLane: Four scholar-athletes
  - Roosevelt: Two NYL second team; three scholar-athletes
  - Sunnyside: Two NYL all-league (one second team); four scholar-athletes

Girls Volleyball
- **Bullard**: One CMAC all-league; playoff qualifier; CMAC runner-up; 11 scholar-athletes
  - Edison: One CMAC all-league (one second team); four scholar-athletes
  - Fresno: One second team; One scholar-athlete
  - Hoover: Two NYL all-league (two second team); Division III playoffs; 10 scholar-athletes; district academic team champions (3.81)
  - McLane: One NYL all-league (one second team); NYL runner-up; 12 scholar-athletes
  - Roosevelt: One NYL second team; Five scholar-athletes
  - Sunnyside: Two NYL second team; Eight scholar-athletes

Girls Tennis
- **Bullard**: Academic team champions (3.84); two CMAC all-league; Division I playoffs; 10 scholar-athletes
  - Edison: Two CMAC all-league (one second team); five scholar-athletes
  - Fresno: Grizelda Aguilar, NYL singles champion; one medalist
  - Hoover: Two scholar-athletes
  - McLane: Four scholar-athletes
  - Roosevelt: One NYL singles medalist; medalist; three scholar-athletes
  - Sunnyside: NYL runner-up; Melissa Gonzalez/Megan Hernandez doubles qualifier; one NYL second team; two scholar-athletes

NEGOTIATIONS
Continued from page 1

Students Help Honor MLK at Citywide Event

Milaejah Johnson, front, and Zariyah McCoy from the King Afri
can American Dance Troupe from King Elementary School perform as part of the annual garland
ing ceremony at the Mar
tin Luther King Jr. bust at Courthouse Park
on Jan. 5 in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. The keynote speaker was Fresno Unified
Superintendent Bob Nelson.

chapter in our district’s history.”
Nelson said that the agree
ment signaled “an importan
t day for our district and our community. We have established framework that put us in space to be better collabora
tors in educating the youth of our city, and begin a monumental shift in our organizational culture.”
Nelson noted at the press event Jan. 17 that he took on the job as superintenden
t “with a deep personal commitment to repair relationships and begin changing the narrative around our district’s culture, including that with our teachers.”

The work to repair relation
ships began in December, Nelson said, with help from Linda Hoff and Larry Dunn, professors at Fresno Pacific Univer
sity. This work is just begin
ning, Nelson said, but the agreement ironed out by the two sides last month included ways for the district and FTA to become better partners -- partners that together change the culture of the fourth largest school district in California.
Excellence in Education Finalists

District Honors Exemplary Employees

The district will showcase some of its finest employees, nominated by their peers, during the annual Excellence in Education dinner Feb. 6.

From among 45 finalists, top employees will be announced in five categories: classified; elementary certificated (teachers, nurses, speech language pathologists and library media teachers); middle school certificated; high school certificated; and administrators.

One teacher and the classified and administrator winners will move on to Fresno County’s Educator of the Year awards.

Administrators

- Catherine Aujero
  Visual and Performing Arts

- Rita Baharian
  Climate and Culture

- Ryan Duff
  Forkner Elementary School

- Abril Garcia
  Roosevelt High School

- Annarita Howell
  Wishon Elementary School

- Jason Jones
  Birney Elementary School

- Thomas Nixon
  Online Learning

Joy Nunes
Anthony Elementary School

Lindsay Sanders
Edison High School

Certificated Employees - Elementary School

- Sherri Schaubschlager
  Muir Elementary School

- Debra Bernabe
  Easterby Elementary School

- Michelle Chavez
  Homan Elementary School

- Ngia Her-Lee
  Centennial Elementary School

- Denise Papanickolas
  Powers-Ginsburg Elementary School

- Mary Park
  Vinland Elementary School

- Erick Rozigas
  Wilson Elementary School

Certificated Employees - Middle School

- Carlanda Williams
  Greenberg Elementary School

- Patricia Wolf Kincade
  English Learner Services

- Melissa Blaylock
  Kings Canyon Middle School

- Michael Guerra
  Scandinavian Middle School

- Eduardo Medina
  Wawona Middle School

- Nathan Ojeda
  Yosemite Middle School

- Megan Parrish
  Sequoia Middle School
Excellence in Education Finalists

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<tr>
<th>CERTIFICATED EMPLOYEES HIGH SCHOOL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minith Real</td>
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<th>CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES</th>
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<td>Marc Patterson</td>
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<td>Ed Schneider</td>
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<td>Myra Ramirez</td>
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District Administrator is County Award Finalist

One of last year’s Excellence in Education winners, Teresa Morales-Young, advanced through the rigorous county awards process and was selected as a finalist for the Fresno County Administrator of the Year award. Morales-Young, administrator for teacher development, was honored Nov. 16 at a celebration at the Saroyan Theatre.”
EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Wawona Middle School Attendance Assistant Shows up for Students

Mariana Rodriguez, an attendance records assistant at Wawona Middle School, enjoys getting to know students and their families and seeks ways to improve students’ attendance.

What is the best part about your job?
My favorite thing is when former students return to our site to visit and tell us about their high school experiences, especially when they realize we were trying to prepare them for high school.

What is the most challenging part about your job?
The most challenging part of my job can definitely be communicating effectively.

What are some of the barriers that keep students from coming to school?
Social-emotional issues, transportation and family issues are a few things that impact a student’s attendance.

How do you try to break down those barriers?
Sometimes parents just need someone to listen. If I can, I refer the parents to who can help them on site. Sometimes parents just don’t know where to start and need some guidance.

How do you see your job relating to students doing well in school?
I have to be aware of students’ patterns of attendance and keep parents informed. The more time students are here, the more time they have to learn and grow.

Name one thing most people do not know about you.
I love to read.

If you were not an attendance records assistant, what profession would you choose?
I would love to be a photojournalist.

What do you like to do in your spare time?
In my spare time I enjoy spending as much time as possible with my two daughters and family.

What is your dream vacation?
My dream vacation would be visiting the area in Mexico that my mother’s family is from and visiting the beaches nearby.

Bullard TALENT Art Teacher Wins Award for School-wide Program

Stacey Williams, a teacher at Bullard TALENT K-8 School, won the Exemplary Program of the Year award from the California Art Education Association and was honored at the California Art Education Association State Conference in San Francisco last November. Williams oversees the visual arts program at Bullard TALENT, providing art curriculum for kindergarten through eighth grade. She has been with the district for 17 years, 13 at Bullard TALENT.

How did you become an art teacher?
I have always had a passion for art. I was an art studio major at UCSB and completed my teaching credential and Masters in Education at UCSB with my big idea for my project being, “How to teach children to think critically through visual art.” I have always had a passion and strong belief that visual arts need to be integrated in to the classroom across subjects. When the awesome Mrs. [Pat] Semrick retired I applied for the art teacher job.

What was your reaction to winning the CAEA award?
My first thought was that I was excited to represent Fresno Unified in a positive way.

What do you think made Bullard TALENT’s visual arts program stand out?
Bullard TALENT is a gem in Fresno Unified! I think the program stands out for the depth and diversity of the program. Students first through fifth grades attend an art morning class once a week, which allows the students to learn and progress as artists. The kindergarteners visit the art room beginning in the spring so they are able to get familiar with the art room and my procedures. I also teach middle school art electives in the afternoon.

How do the arts connect to academics?
Art is everywhere! I have used it to support lessons in science, math, reading -- basically all across the curriculum. When a teacher takes the time to incorporate art into core curriculum lessons, the outcomes can be seen in the success of the students.

What do you enjoy the most about your job?
Honestly my favorite part of my job is when kids come up to me the day

See STACEY WILLIAMS
Continued on page 12
Edison’s Biomed Pathway Helps Students Explore Careers

Most students who are interested in a medical career after high school may think of being a doctor or a nurse, but at Edison High School, teachers are hoping to expose students to even broader opportunities.

The Biomedical Science and Technology Pathway at Edison High School is a four year, intensive program. The courses satisfy A-G class requirements for college while providing students with hands-on, real-world learning in a variety of medical professions.

“They get exposed to careers such as crime scene investigator, toxicologist, dietitian, epidemiologist and forensic pathologist,” said Biomedical Science and Technology Pathway teacher Dina McPhail.

This year, the program added a medical terminology course for senior biomedical students during their second semester. It’s a dual enrollment course with Fresno City College, enabling the 95 students enrolled to fulfill a prerequisite for many biomedical college courses.

“Biomedical Innovation is a capstone course for the biomedical science pathway. Students answer questions and solve problems related to current biomedical science topics,” said McPhail.

Through solving open-ended problems and tackling health challenges of the 21st century, students address topics such as clinical medicine, physiology, biomedical engineering and public health.

McPhail’s main goal for students this year is to expose them to numerous career opportunities in the medical field.

“I want to show them that there are many different paths that they can take. So far this year we have had a few guest speakers who have shown them many opportunities,” McPhail said.

Guest speakers have included a sergeant first class who spoke about the U.S. Army medical pathway, and a college counselor from Fresno City College. Also, nurses and doctors from Community Regional Medical Center came to Edison to train students on controlling life or death bleeding in an emergency situation. Each student who participated received a certificate of completion from the hospital.

During the first semester, some students worked as a team to design a more efficient emergency medicine delivery system. The students did this by analyzing how an emergency room works and breaking down any efficiencies of the system. Then, the students performed research to design their own emergency room.

McPhail hopes she can arrange a tour of a hospital emergency room next year for students. She’s proud of the many students who walk away from Edison’s Biomedical Science and Technology Pathway with not just improved knowledge of the medical field but mastery of group collaboration, excellent verbal and written communication as well as real-world problem solving skills.

El Camino Biomédico de Edison Ayuda a estudiantes Explorar Opciones de Carrera

La mayoría de los estudiantes que están interesados en una carrera médica después de la preparatoria piensan en ser un(a) doctor(a) o un(a) enfermero(a), pero en Edison High School, los maestros(as) tienen la esperanza de exponer a los estudiantes a oportunidades aún más amplias.

El Camino de Ciencia Biomédica y Tecnología en la Edison High School es un programa intenso, de cuatro años. Los cursos satisfacen los requisitos de clases A-G para el colegio mientras proporcionan a los estudiantes aprendizaje práctico en una variedad de profesiones médicas del mundo real.

“Ellos van a ser expuestos a carreras como investigadores de escenas de crímenes, toxicólogos, nutricionistas, epidemiólogos y forenses,” dijo Dina McPhail maestra de Camino de Ciencia Biomédica y Tecnología.

Este año, el programa añadió un curso de terminología médica para los estudiantes de grado 12 (senior) durante su segundo semestre. Es un curso de doble registro con el Colegio Fresno City, permitiéndoles a los 95 estudiantes registrados satisfacer a prerrequisitos para muchos otros cursos biomédicos de colegio.

“Innovación Biomédica es curso culminante para el camino de ciencia biomédica. Los estudiantes responden a preguntas y resuelven problemas relacionados a temas actuales de la ciencia biomédica,” dijo McPhail.

A través de resolver problemas indefinidos y trabajando con obstáculos de salud del siglo 21, los estudiantes tratan temas como la medicina clínica, fisiología, ingeniería biomédica y salud pública.

Este año la meta principal de McPhail para los estudiantes es de exponerlos a las numerosas oportunidades en el campo médico.

“Yo quiero enseñarles que hay muchos caminos diferentes que pueden tomar. En lo que va de este año hemos tenido unos cuantos oradores invitados que les han enseñado muchas oportunidades,” dice McPhail.

Oradores invitados han incluido a un sargento de primera clase que habló acerca del camino médico del ejército de los Estados Unidos, y un consejero del Colegio Fresno City. También, enfermeras y doctores de Community Regional Medical Center vinieron a Edison para entrenar a los estudiantes en cómo controlar una situación de emergencia de sangramiento de vida o muerte. Cada estudiante que participó recibió un certificado de finalización del hospital.

Durante el primer semestre, algunos estudiantes trabajaron como un equipo para diseñar un sistema más eficaz de reparto de medicina urgente. Los estudiantes hicieron esto analizando cómo trabaja una sala de emergencias y eliminando cualquier ineficiencia del sistema. Después, los estudiantes hicieron investigaciones para diseñar su propia sala de emergencias.

McPhail espera que pueda organizar un recorrido a la sala de emergencias en el hospital para los estudiantes del próximo año. Ella está orgullosa de muchos de los estudiantes que salieron del Camino de Ciencia Biomédica y Tecnología de Edison con no solo mejoramiento en sabiduría del campo médico pero también con el dominio de colaboración de grupo, excelente comunicación verbal y escrita y además con habilidades para resolver problemas del mundo real.

Edison Pathomed Pathway pab cov tub kwam ntawv tshawb xyuas tej hauj lwm xa1v

Feem ntau cov tub kwam ntawv uas xav kwam txog kev kho mob tom qab kwam tiav tsev kwam ntawv phab sib xav los ua ib tus kw khs kho mob lossis ua ib tus neeg sib mob, tiam sis hauv Tsev Kwam Ntawv Phab Siab Edison, cov xib hwb xav xam pom tej tub kwam ntawv kom muaj tej kw veb qhib put nau daua.

Lub Biomedical Science thib Technology Pathway hauv Tsev Kwam Ntawv Phab Siab Edison yog plaub xyooos, qho kvem kwam sib zog. Cov kev kwam txaus siab rau A-G chav kwam ntawv rau kev mus kwam ntawv qib siab thauv muab tej tub kwam ntawv qis tes ua kiag, kwam taiag tiag hauv nauv hon kev kho mob.

"La wv raug nthuav rau tej hauj lwm xwv saxi kev txauq xyuas hauv taixhaun cai, cov txhauu tua kambaw, kws txhauu nthuav, epidemiologist thib kws kho kev mob nkeeg," xib hwb Dino
McPhail, Biomedical Science thib Technology Pathway tau hais li.

"Biomedical Innovation yog ib hom kev kay kwawm ntawm kev tshawb kwamn txog biomedical science. Cov tub kwawm ntaww teb tej lus nug thiw daws tej teeb meem ntsig txog tej kev kay kwawm biomedical tam sim no," McPhail hais li.

Los ntawm kev daws tej teeb meem uas qhib siab thiw kev sib tw nrog kev noj qab nyob zoo ntawm tiam 21, tej tub kwawm ntaww hais txog tej yam xws li tshuaj clinical, physiologi, biomi-

cological engineering thiw pej xeejm kev noj qab nyob huv.

McPhail lub hom phiaj tseem ceeb rau cov tub kwawm ntaww lub xyoo no yoga nthuav qhia lawv rau ntaw xoj hau kev qhib hauj lwm rau kev kho mob.


Cov qhua hais lus xam nrog rau ib tus thawj tub rog nws tau hais txog kev ua tub rog hauv Teb Chaws Asmeskas, thiw ib tus kws pab tswwv yim los ntawm Fresno City College. Tsis tas li ntawd, cov kws sab thiw thiw kws kho mob los ntawm Community Regional Medical Center tauj rau Edison cob qhia cov tub kwawm ntaww txog kev tswwv txoj sia los yog los ntshaw tuag thau muaj xwm txheej ceev. Txhua tus tub kwawm ntaww uas tau muab kev koom tes teu txais daim ntaww pov thawj tiaw ntawm lub tswwv kho mob.

Nyob rau thawj kyv semester, ib txhia tub kwawm ntaww tau ua hauj lwm tam li ib pawg neeg los tsim qhov kev kho mob muaj xwm ceev kom zoo dua qab nthxwv. Cov tub kwawm ntaww tau ua qhov no los ntawm kev ntsaus seb qhov xwm txheej ceev ntawd lub chaw muaj xen ceev ua hauj lwm li cas thiw rhuav tshem tej kev ua tsis tau zoi li cas ntawm txoj kev ua hauj lwm. Tom qab ntawd, cov tub kwawm ntaww ua kev tshawb fawb los tsim lawv tus kheej lub chaw xwm txheej ceev.

McPhail cia siab tias nws yuav npaj teem ib qho nqig xyuas tswwv kho mob chaw kho mob xwm ceev rau lub xyoo tom ntawj rau cov tub kwawm ntaww. Nws zoo siab rau ntaw tus tub kwawm ntaww uas tawm ntawm Edison Biomedical Science thib Technology Pathway tsis yog muaj kev tawj ntsa pawb txog kev kho mob xwb tiam sis teem muaj kev sib koom tes, sib txuas lus zoo thiw sau ntaww sib txuas lus nrog rau kev daws teeb meem ntawm lub ntiaj tb.

High region.

She also said that commercial and residential building construction is expected to drive employment growth, and job opportunities for HVAC technicians are expected to be good.

"Working as an HVAC technician, installer, mechanic or electrician may not seem like the most glamorous line of work at first. However, the fact is that a career in HVAC pays well, offers numerous job opportunities, and can be very fulfilling," Shabazz said.

"Additionally, a growing interest in clean energy is set to create new, exciting jobs in this industry. Future job opportunities include working as an energy auditor, green technology specialist or conducting equipment performance testing. HVAC is an exciting field, and offers steady work with good pay and plenty of opportunities for advancement."

Students who have a degree, certificate, and/or certification in HVAC are licensed HVAC technicians and qualified for the following jobs: air conditioning technician, heating technician, refrigeration technician, systems engineer, HVAC installer, maintenance technician, appliance technician or HVAC duct cleaner, or in mechanical assembly.

CTE NEW PROGRAM Continued from page 2

Fresno Unified Leaders Honored by MLK Unity Committee

Fresno Unified Trustee Lindsay Cal Johnson, right, and Chief Information Officer Miguel Arias were recognized with Community Service Awards from the Martin Luther King Unity Committee on Jan. 12 at Fresno City Hall.

Johnson has served on the Fresno Unified Board of Education since 2006. He was honored as a staunch advocate for the Edison High School region, supporting the construction of Vang Pao Elementary School and Gaston Middle School, approving new facilities at Edison High, and bringing greater vocational/technical education opportunities to students in southwest Fresno. Arias has worked for the district since 2008. He was honored for contributing to the creation of the Central Valley Promise Program, which helps low-income students receive free tuition at local community colleges and access to Fresno State, and for being a leading advocate in the creation of the Fresno Unified Dream Resource Center, which assists undocumented immigrants who arrived in the United States as children.
Students Can Track Grades and More with Game-Like App

Students in Fresno Unified are using a new district-designed, game-like app to track points earned for attendance and grade point average, and in other areas. The district is optimistic that the app -- called Strides -- will be another motivational tool for students.

Fresno Unified began piloting Strides during the last school year, following in the footsteps of other popular data-tracking apps, such as Fitbit. The district’s goal is to give students a fun way to track their own data that will encourage better grades and other behaviors that help students succeed in school.

Based on points, students can “level up,” earn badges and also check their status on the leaderboard. Strides points are anonymous unless students accept each other as connections, making it possible to track their progress against friends’ progress.

The app tracks points in five areas, with daily and weekly maximum caps on points that can be earned in each category. Along with attendance and grades, students can get points by simply logging in, participating in after-school activities and good behavior.

The app is designed so that even students who don’t get good grades can be competitive in points by participating in lots of extracurricular activities. Students cannot lose points using the app.

Strides was conceived by David Jansen, the district’s executive director of data science and software systems. It was publicized in the “Hechinger Report” and featured in the high-profile online tech publication, “Wired” in late November.

Paul Scott and Neill Gregory, senior developers for the district’s data-tracking system, ATLAS, collaborated with Jansen in rolling out the app as a pilot during the last school year. The team continues to add features and will soon begin work on a standalone version that can be adopted by other public school districts.

Jansen presented on Strides last spring at Harvard University as part of his fellowship at Harvard’s Center for Education Policy Research.

“The use of data to improve student achievement won’t be fully leveraged until students are included in the process,” Jansen said. “The most powerful determinants of student growth are the mindsets and learning strategies that students bring to their work.

“When students themselves use data about themselves on a regular basis, they become active agents in their own growth.”

Early data on student use of the app indicates that students who log in to Strides at least twice a week have higher average attendance and higher GPAs. The hope is that more than just achievement won’t be fully leveraged until students are included in the process,” Jansen said. “The most powerful determinants of student growth are the mindsets and learning strategies that students bring to their work.

“When students themselves use data about themselves on a regular basis, they become active agents in their own growth.”

Early data on student use of the app indicates that students who log in to Strides at least twice a week have higher average attendance and higher GPAs. The hope is that more than just already high-achieving students will get excited about the app and improve in areas like extracurricular participation and grades.

The app developers have tried to make the app fun by awarding virtual badges when enough points have been earned for certain accomplishments. Developers also imbedded surprise “Easter egg” badges and points that are not based on any accomplishments but encourage use of the app.

The district did not promote the app, instead rolling it out secretly to pique students’ interest. The idea was to make it a student-centered app -- not something connected with teachers or classes -- to increase its allure.

When students in the district’s middle and high schools logged in to the ATLAS student data portal last year they saw a new tab where their attendance and grades had been. When they clicked on it, the Strides app came up.

Within the first semester of the 2016-17 school year, nearly 30,000 students had accessed Strides at least once, most of the secondary students in the district. Use of Strides has gone up this year, and it has continued to increase the use of the student ATLAS portal in general.

Students in Fresno Unified are using a new district-designed, game-like app that students can use to track points earned for attendance and grade point average, and in other areas.
**Bullard High School Principal Carlos Castillo addresses staff, students, community members and district officials Jan. 16 in front of the new entrance to Bullard High School to celebrate the completion of master plan improvements. The transformation of Bullard includes two new classroom buildings, an administration building and library media center. The new front includes a sculpture of a knight, the school’s mascot. The Bullard High renovations were the final major projects using Measure Q** funds.

**Report Fraud, Waste or Abuse**

Dishonest or fraudulent acts can be confidentially reported by calling the Anti-Fraud Hotline, (559) 325-3200, or by completing the fraud, waste or abuse reporting form online at: http://www.ppcpas.com/fresno-unified-fraud-alert

The anti-fraud waste or abuse reporting hotline is available to report alleged fraud in the district. The responsibility for monitoring the hotline rests with the internal auditor, Price, Page & Company. A report may be made anonymously.

**STACEY WILLIAMS**

Continued from page 8

STACEY WILLIAMS

Continued from page 8

I love rap music!

If you were not a teacher, what profession would you choose?

If I was not a teacher I would be a private detective.

**COMMUNITY MESSAGE**

Continued from page 3

ing new bike lanes. The city currently has many new projects in the pipeline to rebuild streets, intersections, pedestrian cross walks and develop trails that enhance the biking and walking experience for district students and residents.

Lastly, the city of Fresno has drafted our yearlong Parks Master Plan, which was finalized in December. This is an integral step in the vision to provide a blueprint to improve our parks and open space system. Within the newly developed parks plan, language was written to prioritize our partnership with the district, community organizations, non-profits, and community members, while increasing the amount of park space across our city.

During my tenure on the Fresno Unified Board of Trustees, I had the privilege of working with the amazing team that leads the district. From the superintendent, the administrators, teachers and current board of trustees, their leadership and commitment to our community and children is relentless. The partnership between the city of Fresno and Fresno Unified has never been stronger. I want to especially thank the board trustees for its leadership and resolve to ensure every child across our city has the opportunity to be successful. Thank you!

**Bullard Make-Over Complete**

Bullard High School Principal Carlos Castillo addresses staff, students, community members and district officials Jan. 16 in front of the new entrance to Bullard High School to celebrate the completion of master plan improvements. The transformation of Bullard includes two new classroom buildings, an administration building and library media center. The new front includes a sculpture of a knight, the school’s mascot. The Bullard High renovations were the final major projects using Measure Q funds.

**Important Dates**

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<td>Feb. 1-16</td>
<td>Survey about Expanding CTE Offerings for Community and Students (<a href="http://www.fresnounified.org">www.fresnounified.org</a>)</td>
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<td>February 19</td>
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<td>March 26-April 2</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
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<td>May 28</td>
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<td>June 7</td>
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**Fresno Unified is getting social!**

**Tag us and share posts!**

#FresnoUnifiedIAmReady

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www.facebook.com/fresnounifiedpage

Get Involved!

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STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

CART Fosters Bullard Student’s Interest in Psychology

Bullard High School senior Shon’Nia Tucker spends half her school day at The Center for Advanced Research and Technology (CART) taking English, science, math, and technology classes integrated with her passion for psychology.

CART opened in 2000 as a partnership between Fresno Unified and Clovis Unified with the vision of creating an innovative environment where juniors and seniors apply what they learn to solve everyday problems. CART combines academic classes, entrepreneurial and critical thinking skills organized around labs based on 21st century careers.

Students attend morning or afternoon sessions and take four classes created by instructors from both education and the business sector to help students explore careers.

Students choose from more than 10 labs ranging from digital marketing and entrepreneurship to biotechnology. Shon’Nia is in the psychology and human behavior lab and loves the project-based activities. She plans to attend Fresno State in the fall.

She said that in traditional classes, teachers lecture and students read and memorize definitions, but the classes at CART are more hands-on and relevant to the real world. Through her psychology studies, she has honed in on a career as a behavioral analyst or neurologist focusing on using “raw” science more than the social sciences.

“At first, I wanted to be a child psychologist, but through my classes I’ve learned that what I had in mind was not what I thought,” Shon’Nia said.

CART CEO Rick Watson said there are no bells at CART and some labs require students to wear office attire. Students are expected to keep track of their own projects and manage their time while working in small groups.

“Some students may find that CART is a better fit for them because they can pick laboratories that appeal to their interests and work on real-world problems,” Watson said.

Sophomores can apply by completing an online application on the CART website or by contacting their high school counselor. Applications for 2018-19 are due Feb. 9.

Shon’Nia Tucker, a senior at Bullard High School, attends The Center for Advanced Research and Technology (CART) program for half the school day.
**New Mural at Ewing Elementary Tells the School’s Story**

Ewing Elementary School students, staff and community members get their first look at the campus’ new mural Jan. 8. The mural, painted by local artist Jose Elias and assistant Marisol Calderon, depicts the school’s namesake, Achilles Dudley Ewing, as well as military training pilots Richard Anderson and Brad Sexton, who steered their jet away from the campus before crashing and losing their lives in 1994.

**Tentative Agreement Reached with Fresno Teachers Association**

**Tentative Agreement Includes:**

- **SALARY**
  - 1.5% ongoing pay increase retroactive to July 1, 2016
  - 1.5% ongoing pay increase effective July 1, 2017
  - 1.5% limited by prior company salary increase based upon negotiated formula for 2018-19 if funding permits

- **HEALTH CARE**
  - District will pay approx. $18,000 per employee per year
  - Maximum out of pocket can range up to $2,200
  - Maximum out of pocket can range up to $3,000
  - District will maintain three benefit levels through 2018-19

- **CLASS SIZES**
  - TK-12 will have base class sizes for the 2018-19 school year

- **90/10 Coinsurance**

**Tentative Agreement Also Includes:**

- **NIGHTS:** Professional learning / accountable communities reduced 9 hours per year based on 2016-17 evaluation of former nights.
- **NURSES:** July 1, 2018 Final negotiations to increase in registered nurse staffing to 63 full-time equivalents.
- **Adult Education:** Reduce duty days by five in 2018-19 and an additional reduction of five duty days by July 1, 2019 with no change in salary.

**NEXT STEPS**

- FTA membership votes on Tentative Agreement
- Board of Education votes on Tentative Agreement
- “Me Too” clause provided to all employees

Negotiation updates can be found at www.Fresnounified.org

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- Urinary Tract Infection
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- Sprains, Strains & Fractures
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- 559-797-7315

**Milburn & Herndon**
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- Fresno, CA 93722
- 559-412-2535

**Selma**
- 3000 Floral Ave
- Selma, CA 93662
- 559-318-9240

**Turlock**
- 1851 Lander Ave
- Turlock, CA 95380
- 209-634-4003
in California, the reality of human and sex trafficking is hitting too close to home. I will admit, the real life stories shared with me of late are beyond alarming. Students need the opportunity to be kids, reach their potential and find success. Incidents of human trafficking are taking away the innocence of our community’s youth and causing them to grow up and experience life in a way no child should have to. Fresno Unified is collaborating with the Office of the District Attorney, local law enforcement and other agencies to develop educational tools for students as well as district staff. It’s our goal to build awareness and educate students so they can avoid being lured into such a horrible world. Like so much of what we do as a district, this effort cannot be done in isolation. Together, we can make a difference and reduce the number of young people being coerced into a world they may never be able to get free from.

Whether it’s Fresno City College, the District Attorney’s Office, or a variety of other partners, we know that we as a district cannot fully support our students without our community.

El Distrito Escolar de Fresno da la Bienvenida al Apoyo de los Socios de la Comunidad

“Creer que puedes y estas a mitad del camino”. Estas palabras sabias que alguna vez pronunció el presidente Theodore Roosevelt nunca parecieron más apropiadas que hoy en día—ya sea para mantener tus resoluciones de año nuevo, para llegar a un acuerdo con aquellos con los que has estado en desacuerdo, o con ayudar a los estudiantes a encontrar el éxito académico a medida que se preparan para la universidad y una carrera.

Para muchos estudiantes, creer que pueden tener éxito requiere más que solo un acto de fe o confianza en si mismos—se necesita el apoyo de la comunidad. Vimos algo de ese apoyo este diciembre pasado cuando los empleados y nuestra comunidad se pusieron en pie para brindar a los estudiantes abrigos, comida y regalos navideños. Lo vemos en voluntarios, ya que pasan tiempo ayudando en el salón de clases, tutoría, sirviendo como mentor o incluso entrenador. Es a través de estos encuentros que los estudiantes comienzan a ver las verdaderas posibilidades delante de ellos.

Para nuestros estudiantes de secundaria, esas posibilidades conducen a graduar-se con el mayor número de opciones post-secundarias de la más amplia variedad de opciones. Gracias en parte a una asociación con el Colegio de la Ciudad de Fresno, hemos lanzado colectivamente la Promesa del Valley Central. La promesa proporciona el primer semestre gratuito para aquellos estudiantes de último año que buscan ir a un colegio comunitario local. Para ser elegibles, los estudiantes de último año deben completar su solicitud de FAFSA antes de la fecha límite de marzo, tener al menos un GPA acumulado de 2.7 y tener los requisitos de a-g completados o progreso exitoso en un camino de CTE. Este es un programa especialmente importante para estudiantes interesados que se preocupan de que las opciones de colegio estén demasiado lejos de su alcance. Los estudiantes pueden obtener más información hablando con su consejero escolar o visitando www.centralvalleypromise.org.

El siguiente tema no es tan alentador como ayudar a los jóvenes del distrito a descubrir sus opciones para colegio, pero es una cuestión seria que nuestra comunidad y nuestro distrito está lidiando con—la trata de personas. Como el cuarto distrito escolar más grande de California, la realidad del tráfico humano y sexual está llegando demasiado cerca de casa. Lo admitiré, las historias de la vida real que he compartido con aquellos con los que has estado en desacuerdo, o con ayudar a los estudiantes a encontrar el éxito académico a medida que se preparan para la universidad y una carrera.

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