Fresno Unified’s Parent University reaches a milestone this school year: 10 years providing support to parents so that they can better help their children achieve academic success in school.

Students, parents, Parent University staff, Fresno Unified school board members and Superintendent Bob Nelson celebrated Parent University’s first decade of serving families and the community Aug. 9 at the Fresno Grizzlies baseball game. Nelson threw out the first pitch of the game.

Parent University will continue to celebrate this special anniversary with a variety of activities throughout this school year. Learn more about some of the exceptional parents who have “graduated” from Parent University through nine videos available at fresnounified.org. (Also see page 9.)

Fresno Unified’s Parent University empowers parents with the educational tools and resources necessary to be the best advocates for their child’s education and has served over 52,000 families to date. One of its most popular courses is the Elementary School Boards Association awarded Parent University with a Golden Bell Award.

For video, go to vimeo.com/fresnounified/parentuniversity10years

Parent University will offer nine different multi-week courses for parents this school year, many of them in English, Spanish and Hmong, starting Aug. 27. The first fall cohort will be taught at 75 different schools. New this year, Parent University will also offer a College Family Symposium and College Fair, Cyber Safety Workshop and CTE and School Choice Parent Field Trip. (See page 2 for details.)

“Parent University’s anniversary is a district wide celebration, as every department relies on their help and

See PARENT U ANNIVERSARY Continued on page 8

Parent University by the Numbers
- 52,000 families served
- 145 schools (two cohorts) will hold classes this fall
- 8 community partners

District Welcomes Students Back

For video, go to vimeo.com/fresnounified/firstday2019

Kindergarten students at Slater Elementary School celebrate the first week of school.

MORE ABOUT BACK TO SCHOOL ON PAGES 4-5.
Parents Invited to Attend Parent University Courses and Programs

Parent University classes for the fall are underway as of Aug. 27, although parents are welcome to still sign up and attend any session. The fall semester class modules include:

- Ready to Learn (preschool)
- Elementary School
- Traditional Middle School
- College and Career Readiness (high school seniors)
- Special Education with Adult Transition Tour
- Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors
- Family Science Night
- Hispanic Residents Academy (Fresno Police Department)
- Parent Leadership Academy

Contact the Parent Resource Center at (559) 457-3390 for more information.

The Ready to Learn Module will cover:

- Early learning programs in Fresno Unified and the developmental stages of young students
- The school structure and the district’s attendance policies
- Simple, every-day strategies for parents to support their early learner in math, science, and reading
- Assessments done in pre-school and how parents can be involved at school

The Elementary Module will cover:

- District goals and the roles of district leaders
- California assessments used to measure student progress and the California Dashboard used to measure school/district performance
- Safe and Civil Schools Initiative, and the Student Attendance Review Board
- The district’s information systems for parents and students to keep track of academic performance

The Traditional Middle School Module will cover:

- Middle school structure and the district’s information systems for keeping track of student academic progress
- Classes offered and types of assessments
- Developmental changes during middle school years and prevention strategies for suicide, depression and bullying
- Building positive communication skills at home, including the various communication styles and how communication affects student academic success
- How Restorative Practices discipline is implemented in the district and how it affects learning and development
- Layout of the campus, meeting the staff and learning about the school’s support services for students

College and Career Readiness Module with College Tour will cover:

- What to expect in the senior year and what life skills seniors should know before graduation
- Learn how to navigate the admissions process
- Learn how to be ready for financial aid and what personal information is required for a financial aid application
- Options for career education and job skills

Special Education Module with Special Education Experts and Adult Transition Tour will cover:

- Overview of special education law, including Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
- How to participate in an IEP

A question and answer session for parents with special education staff

Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors (10 weeks) promotes family success and is available in English and Spanish. Topics include school readiness, family well-being and helping parents be advocates for their children. Family Science Night, in partnership with PBS, is a five-week course in English, Hmong and Spanish that covers a variety of topics for parents ranging from how to help their students become better writers to understanding the scientific concept of friction to navigating social media.

Through the Hispanic Residents Academy (13 weeks), the Fresno Police Department provides details on the various departments and functions of the police department for Spanish-speaking residents.

New this year, Parent University will also offer a College Family Symposium and College Fair on Sept. 28, Cyber Safety Workshop on Nov. 19 and a CTE and School Choice Parent Field Trip in October.

Padres son Invitados a Asistir a los Cursos de Universidad de Padres

Las clases de la Universidad de Padres para el otoño están en marcha a partir del 27 de agosto, aunque los padres son bienvenidos a inscribirse y asistir a cualquier sesión.

Los módulos de clases del semestre de otoño incluyen:

- Listos Para Aprender/ Ready To Learn (preescolar)
- Escuela Primaria
- Escuela Secundaria Tradicional
- Preparación de colegio/universidad y carrera (12vo grado escuela preparatoria)
- Educación especial con recorrido de transición para adultos
- Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors
- Noche Familiar de Ciencias
- Academia de Residentes Hispanos (Departamento de Policía de Fresno)
- Academia de liderazgo de padres

Comuníquese con el Centro de

See PARENT U PROGRAMS
Continued on page 8
SUPERINTENDENT’S Message

Test Scores and Graduation Rates on the Rise

In a matter of moments, summer break was here and gone as more than 74,000 students returned to school last month. From the second they hit the front gate, students were greeted with warm welcomes and cheers as their school family welcomed them back. You saw it from campus to campus; the excitement surrounding the new school year was palpable. Despite any first day jitters, students were immediately making connections with staff, meeting new friends, settling into their new environments and embracing a culture of learning – clear signs that the school year was off to another great start.

With the recent release of 2017-18 graduation rates and last school year’s SBAC results, I have every expectation that our district will continue to move forward in the same positive direction. Fresno Unified has had four years of academic improvement both in English language arts and math. Let me say that again because it’s significant – four years of academic improvement, 10.5% improvement in ELA and 11.7% improvement in math. While we remain behind the state, this positive and steady trajectory reinforces that we’re moving the needle and doing the right work on behalf of our kids. It’s not as fast as any of us would like, but there is no doubt we are on the right path to building successful college and career ready graduates.

Recently released graduation rates also show favorable growth as we moved from 84.3% in 2016-17 to 85.8% in 2017-18. Fresno Unified’s graduation rates exceed both Fresno County at 81.5% and the state of California at 83.0%. This progress is a direct result of the deliberate, intentional culture of learning with high expectations that we strive to execute daily as we help students build a strong academic foundation. Shifts of this nature are not based on academic learning alone. They require a growth mindset and expectation that success is absolutely possible, even on those tough days. That resiliency is exactly what drives our entire district to be better than we were the day before.

Message from ValleyPBS Vice President of Education Natali Carrera

ValleyPBS Partners with District to Help Parents be their Child’s First and Best Teacher

ValleyPBS is proud to have partnered with Parent University to provide parent engagement workshops to Fresno Unified families for the past five years. The ValleyPBS Ready to Learn Parent Engagement Program was created to equip all parents with the information, skills and materials they need to become their child’s first and best teacher. These workshops cover a wide range of topics, from helping children with reading comprehension and learning new words to telling time, money math and even navigating social media.

Our program is dedicated to offering fun, effective and unique learning tools families will truly want to put into action. We believe when practicing new skills is enjoyable and the whole family gets involved, children will develop an enthusiasm for learning that will follow them into the classroom. We love seeing kids get excited about the activities we send home, often asking their parents, “What’s your homework Mom?” or “Dad, what’s our project for tonight?”

We know our partnership with Parent University is a very special one because we hear comments like:

- “I thought this class was supposed to teach me how to help my child read. It did. But it also taught me how to be a better parent.” (Rowell Elementary parent)
- “We were able to spend so much time together as a family because of the projects and books. Meaningful moments.” (Wolters Elementary parent)

In the year ahead, we look forward to offering workshops on 45 campuses with topics that include Hands-on Family Science, Being a Good Friend and Dealing with Bullying, Vocabulary Building, and Culture and Diversity for Kids. Each workshop offers instruction for parents, enriched childcare for kids, a meal for the entire family and hands-on project supplies and children’s books for families to take home and put into use.

Thanks to our partnership with Parent University, we’ve been able to serve over 6,500 families, put over 30,000 children’s books into home libraries, and provided over 100,000 school and project supplies to Fresno Unified students. Thank you, Parent University, for five amazing years and all that’s yet to come – and congratulations on your 10th anniversary!
Right, Slater Elementary School students, from left, Julian Garcia Gallegos, Paloma Cuatzo and Emir Cabello Villanueva are enjoying their first week of kindergarten.

Below, transportation staff is up before the sun on the first day of school. From left is Steven Fabela, Transportation Director Reggie Ruben, Victor Quintos and Chris Zamudio.

Below right, Heaton Elementary School first grade classmates Emmarie Varela, left, and Emily Neville read together on the first day of school.
Far left, Sequoia Middle School orchestra student Jon Xiong is already busy practicing during the first week of school.

Left, Fort Miller Middle School’s new principal, Matt Olivares, visits with students during the first week of school.

Below left, Fort Miller’s Kennedy Harris is ready for a new school year.

Below right, assistant Laura Ramirez Vasquez and kindergarten student Noah Vang relax during the first week of school at Slater Elementary School.
Raine Bumatay, principal of Fresno Adult School, has been selected for a Top Ten Professional Women Award by the Marjaree Mason Center. Bumatay and other recipients will be honored at the Convention Center on Oct. 15. The awards recognize women who serve as role models, give back to their communities and are making strides in their profession.

Bumatay began working at Fresno Unified in 1986, teaching at the elementary, middle school and high school levels until 2005. From 2005-2010 she was a consulting teacher in math, providing support to teachers in all grades. She has served on numerous education boards and taught at Fresno Pacific University and Fresno State.

Bumatay has been the principal at Fresno Adult School since 2016 and an administrator there since 2010. Bumatay was Fresno Unified’s Administrator of the Year in 2015.

While at the adult school she has been instrumental in acquiring grants to help students become U.S. citizens, improve their reading skills and complete a college certificate or degree program.

Through Bumatay’s work helping adult students complete their high school diploma or acquire job skills, she has changed not only adult lives but those of their children, many of whom attend Fresno Unified.

Licensed vocational nurse Cynthia de la Garza administers a vaccination in August at Tioga Middle School during a free immunization clinic the district provided for those with Medi-Cal or who are uninsured. Beginning in September, immunizations will be offered Tuesday and Wednesday on the mobile health unit (MHU) and Thursday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Tioga. Go to fresnounified.org for the MHU schedule. A parent or guardian must accompany the student. The student should bring their immunization record and Medi-Cal card if they have one. Also starting in September, well-child and sports physicals are available on the MHU and at Tioga by appointment (457-3294).

The district sends Rapid Alert text messages to the cell phones of parents or guardians if an incident occurs on campus that will disrupt the school day or require an early dismissal. Rapid Alert provides an additional tool for quickly notifying parents/guardians and staff beyond the district’s SchoolMessenger notification system. For Rapid Alert to be successful, parents need to make sure that their emergency cell phone number on file is accurate. Parents should let their school know if there has been an emergency cell phone number change.

Go to fresnounified.org for more information.
New Pharmacy Technician Pathway at Duncan Polytechnical

**What’s new:** Pharmacy Technician Careers at Duncan Polytechnical High School

- Prepares students for a career as a pharmacy technician and provides exploration of other pharmacy careers
- Is the newest pathway within Duncan’s Medical Academy of Science and Health (MASH)
- Students can take courses in their junior and senior years
- Can graduate prepared for the National Pharmacy Technician Exam and immediate employment

**Career options after high school:** Pharmacy technician, specialty pharmacist, community pharmacist, clinical pharmacist.

**Higher education opportunities:** Clovis Community College and California Health Science University

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Duncan Polytechnical High School students, from left, Alex Espinoza, Riley Nanthavongdouangsy and Yadira Cholula are part of a new pharmacology course.

**More Information on College and Career Readiness**

The Closer Look feature in every edition of Building Futures will highlight the various college and career engagements created for all students within the district and community.

Visit go.fresnou.org/career for more information on the array of career technical education, counseling and guidance, and extended learning options available to Fresno Unified students.

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**EduText**

Fresno Unified School District

Receive Your Child’s Grades Via Text Message!

Learn more by visiting FRESNOUNIFIED.ORG or your child’s school office
support. We are extremely proud of the staff and parents who participate and engage in activities to help their students excel,” said Superintendent Bob Nelson.

The Fresno Unified Board of Education launched Parent University because of its commitment to engaging and empowering parents to support student achievement and its core belief that parents are vital partners in educating students.

In 2009, the district reformed its parent engagement strategy, laying the groundwork for pilot Parent University classes in 2010. In 2011, Parent University expanded curriculum and in 2012 the Graduation Task Force recommended funding for districtwide implementation of Parent University.

**PARENT U ANNIVERSARY**

Continued from page 1

From left, Duncan Polytechnical High School students Victoria Keith, Evelyn Gamble and Samantha Moua enjoy a celebration Aug. 9 at the Fresno Grizzlies game for the 10th anniversary of Parent University.

**PARENT U PROGRAMS**

Continued from page 2

Recurso para Padres al (559) 457-3390 para más información.

El módulo Listos Para Aprender/Ready to Learn cubrirá:

- Programas de aprendizaje temprano en el Distrito de Fresno y las etapas de desarrollo de los jóvenes estudiantes
- La estructura escolar y las políticas de asistencia del distrito
- Estrategias simples, diarias para que los padres apoyen a sus estudiantes jóvenes en matemáticas, ciencias y lectura
- Evaluaciones realizadas en preescolar y cómo los padres pueden participar en la escuela

El módulo de Escuela Primaria cubrirá:

- Objetivos del distrito y las funciones de líderes del distrito
- Evaluaciones de California utilizadas para medir el progreso de los estudiantes y el instrumento indicador de California utilizado para medir el desempeño escolar/distrito
- Iniciativa de escuelas seguras y civiles y la mesa directiva de revisión de asistencia estudiantil
- Los sistemas de información del distrito para que los padres y estudiantes realicen un seguimiento del rendimiento académico

El módulo de Escuela Secundaria Tradicional cubrirá:

- Estructura de la escuela secundaria y los sistemas de información del distrito para realizar un seguimiento del progreso académico de los estudiantes
- Clases ofrecidas y tipos de evaluaciones
- Cambios en el desarrollo durante los años de la escuela secundaria y estrategias de prevención para el suicidio, la depresión y el acoso escolar
- Desarrollar habilidades de comunicación positivas en el hogar, incluyendo los diversos estilos de comunicación y cómo la comunicación afecta el éxito académico de los estudiantes
- Cómo se implementa la disciplina de Prácticas Restaurativas en el distrito y cómo afecta el aprendizaje y el desarrollo
- Diseño del campus, conocer al personal y aprender sobre los servicios de apoyo de la escuela para los estudiantes

El módulo de preparación para colegio/universidad y la carrera con viaje a colegio cubrirá:

- Qué esperar en el último año y qué habilidades para la vida deben saber los estudiantes del 12vo grado antes de la graduación
- Aprenda cómo navegar el proceso de admisión
- Aprenda cómo estar listo para la ayuda financiera y qué información personal se requiere para una solicitud de ayuda financiera

- Opciones para la educación profesional y las habilidades laborales

El módulo de educación especial con expertos en educación especial y recorrido por el proceso de adultos cubrirá:

- Visión general de la ley de educación especial, incluyendo la Ley de Educación para Individuos Con Discapacidades (IDEA)
- Cómo participar en un IEP
- Una oportunidad de preguntas y respuestas para que los padres pregunten a educación especial del distrito

Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors (10 semanas) promueve el éxito familiar y está disponible en inglés y español. Los temas incluyen la preparación escolar, el bienestar familiar y ayudar a los padres a ser defensores de sus hijos.

Noche de Ciencias Familiar, en octubre. Nuevo este año, la Universidad de Padres también ofrecerá un simposio Familiar Universitario y una Feria Universitaria el 28 de septiembre. Taller de Seguridad Cibernética el 19 de noviembre y un viaje para padres sobre CTE y opciones escolares en octubre.

**Parent U Programs**

Continued on page 9

Niam Txiv University cov chav kawm rau lub caij nplooj zeg tab tom los rau tham lam Yim Hli tim 27, txawm li ntawm los cov niam txiv raug tos txais tuaj cuv npe thiab koom ib ntu kawn twg.

Cov qauv chav kawm lub caij nplooj ntops zeg xam nrog rau:

- Npaj Txhij los Kawn (preschool)
- Tsev Kawm Ntawv Theem Qis
- Tsev Kawm Ntawv Theem Nrab
- Raws Li Ibx Txwm
- College and Career Readiness (tsev

See Parent U Programs

Continued on page 9

www.FresnoUnified.org
PARENT UNIVERSITY: 10 YEARS SERVING FAMILIES

Slater, Hoover Mother Gives District Parent University Classes an A+

Yvonne Diaz, mother of five, says attending Parent University made her realize the variety of ways she could be involved in her children’s education and prompted her to better connect with their schools.

Her advice to parents about Parent University: “Just try it. At least go to one class and you will see all the information they have to offer.”

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

This year, Parent University is celebrating a decade of providing parents with the educational tools and resources necessary to be the best advocates for their child’s education. Diaz is among the thousands of parents who are better supporting their students’ academic journey because of Parent University.

Diaz said she learned how to be a more active partner with her children’s schools, the importance of reaching more active partner with her children’s schools, the importance of reaching more active partner with her children’s schools.

She looks back on when her oldest was a senior at Hoover and navigating the college admissions process without any help from his parents because she was unaware of how much was involved. By the time her second-oldest was a senior, she was able to help with the process because of what she learned at Parent University, such as filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

“There’s so many kids who don’t even know what FAFSA is,” Diaz said. “They have no idea what their college choices are.”

She recalled that when she first showed up at her daughter’s school when she was a ninth-grader, her daughter was embarrassed and said, “Mother, what are you doing here?” But her daughter has seen how her mother’s involvement and knowledge of the school system has helped her as a student.

Through her Parent University activities, Diaz has also had the opportunity to involve her children’s friends and set an example for their parents. Diaz said that most students want their parents to be more involved.

“They may not admit it, but at the end of the day, they feel really proud. They know, ‘My parent cares, my parent is involved,’” Diaz said.

Continued on page 12

See Parent U Programs
Continued on page 12

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Kawm ntwaw theem siab cov kawn qiab kaum ob
Kev Kawm Ntawv Tswj Xeeb nrog Kev Ncig Xyuas Neeg Laus Qhov Kev Hloov
Abriendo Puertas/Qhov Rooj Qhib
Hmo Tsev Neeg Tshawb Fawb
Hispanic Residents Academy (Fresno Police Department)
Txuj Ci Niam Txiv Ntaus Thawj
Hu rau “Parent Resource Center” ntwaw (559) 457-3390 rau lus qhia ntau ntxiv.

Tus Qauv Npaj Txhij los Kawm yuav tham txog:
Cov kev kawn thauam ntxov nyob hauv Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv thiab tej them kev loj hlob ntwaw cov me nyuam hlus
Qauv tsev kawn thiab hauv paus tsev kawn ntwaw tej cai mus koom kev kawn

Yooj yim, tswv yim txhua txhua hnhb rau cov niam txiv los mus txhawb pab lawv kev kawn thauam ntxov ua lej, tshawb fawb, thiab nheem maw
Cov kev soj ntsuam ua tiav hauv pre-school thiab seb cov niam tsv muaj pev xwm muab tau kev koom tes hauv tsev kawn ntwaw li cas
Qauv Tsev Kawm Ntawv Theem Qis yuav tham txog:
Hauv pauv tsev kawn ntwaw tej hom phiag thiab tej kev ris dej num ntwaw hauv pauv tsev kawn ntwaw cov thaww coj
California cov kev soj ntsuam siv los muab kev ntsuas tub kawn ntwaw kev kawn tau thiab California Dashboard siv los ntsuas tsev kawn ntwaw/hauv paus tsev kawn ntwaw kev ua dej num
Cai Nyob Nyab Xeeb thiab Haum Xeeb Hauv Tsev Kawm Ntaww, thiab Pawg Neeg Saib Xyuas Tub Kawm Ntwaw Kev Mus Koom Kev Kawn

Hauv pauv tsev kawn ntwaw qhov kev muab lus qhia rau tej niem txiv thiab tej tub kawn ntwaw los xyuas txog txoj kev kawn tau txuj ci
Tus Qauv Tsev Kawm Ntawv Nrab Li Ib Txwmm yuav tham txog:
Qauv tsev kawn ntwaw them nra thiab hauv pauv tsev kawn ntwaw qhov kev muab lus qhia rau kev xyuas txog tub kawn ntwaw kev kawn tau txuj ci
Cov chav kawn qhib muaj thiab hom kev soj ntsuam
Kev loj hlov hloblov ub sij hawm xyoo kawn kev kawn ntwaw them nra thiab cov tswv yim tiv thiab kev rau kev tua tus kheej, kev nnuaj siab thiab kev thab plaub
Tsim muaj cov kev sib txuas lus zoo nyob hauv vaj hauv tau, xam nrog rau ntau hom kev sib txuas lus thiab kev sib txuas lus muaj kev cuam slhauv tub kawn ntwaw kev kawn tau txuj ci li cas
Tev Kev Lis Dej Num Kho Tseb Meem rau txim raug siv li cas hauv hauv pauv tsev kawn ntwaw thiab nrau ntau kev cuam tshauv kev kawn thiab kev loj hlov lus cas

Nhua qhib luub vaj loog kawn, ntsib nrog cov neeg xhiav dej num thiab kawn txog tsev kawn ntwaw cov kev pab muab kev txhawb pab rau tej tub kawn ntwaw

Tus Qauv “College and Career Readiness” nrog Kev Ncig Xyuas College yuav tham txog:
Yam dab tsi raug cia siab hauv xyoo kawn qib kauv ob thiab tej kev txawj ua neej dab tsi cov kawn qib kauv ob yuav tsum paub ua ntauji kawn tia
Kawn kom paub txog kev xa ntauji nkaug kawn li cas
Kawn txog cov ntauj thiab rau kev thov nnuaj thiab lus qhia txog txus kheej li cas cia cov ntauji rau kev daim ntwaw thov nnuaj.
Tev kev xaiav rau txuj ci ua hauj

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See Parent U Programs
Continued on page 12
State of Education Luncheon Supports Scholarship Fund for Students

Fresno Unified will host its annual State of Education luncheon Oct. 14, the district’s largest single event to raise money for the Fresno Unified Scholarship Fund.

Members of the community are invited to attend the State of Education event, which will feature Superintendent Bob Nelson as the keynote speaker and showcase student talent. The luncheon will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the DoubleTree hotel in downtown Fresno. For ticket information or to inquire about being a community sponsor, call (559) 457-3733.

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

In addition to the State of Education fundraising effort, employees and the community are invited to contribute to the fund through https://tinyurl.com/fusdscholarship.

Last spring, the district awarded $113,500 in scholarships to 57 students, all of whom overcame significant obstacles on their journey to academic success. Stories of 2019 scholarship recipients will be shared at the luncheon, giving guests an opportunity to learn first-hand how important their support is to Fresno Unified students.

Many of these students struggled with poverty, illness, losing family members, mastering English, and countless other obstacles -- but managed to excel academically and become leaders of their high schools. Scholarship winners last year went on to attend a variety of colleges, including Fresno City College, UC Davis, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, Azusa Pacific University, Fresno State University, Sonoma State University, UCLA and a variety of other community colleges and universities.

The district’s scholarship fund, established in 2009, has made a difference in the lives of Fresno Unified students by not only helping to defray college costs, but by shining a spotlight on their success and singling them out as worthy of distinction.

Workshops will Help Guide Students through Financial Aid Process

As students consider their plans for life after high school, one of their biggest concerns is the ability to pay for college and/or post-secondary training. To secure financial aid, the most important thing a family can do is to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Before submitting a FAFSA, each student and one parent must each establish a Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID) and have that information verified through Social Security Administration. An accurate and complete FAFSA application is required for students to qualify for federal aid, state aid, institutional aid, as well as for many scholarships.

Current seniors may begin applying for FAFSA on Oct. 1. The submission deadline to receive both state and federal aid is March 2. Any FAFSA submitted after March 2 and before June 30 can qualify only for federal aid.

To make sure that all senior students and their families have all the support they need to complete the FAFSA, Fresno Unified will host a series of application completion workshops:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>HIGH SCHOOL</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>SESSION</th>
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<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1839 N. Echo</td>
<td>10/7/19</td>
<td>FAFSA Night: Completing application online</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOOVER</td>
<td>9/23/19</td>
<td>Creating FSA ID and FAFSA Q and A</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5554 N. First</td>
<td>10/14/19</td>
<td>FAFSA Night: Completing application online</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCLANE</td>
<td>9/24/19</td>
<td>Creating FSA ID &amp; Preparing for FAFSA</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2727 N. Cedar</td>
<td>10/9/19</td>
<td>FAFSA Night: Completing application online</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROOSEVELT</td>
<td>9/17/19</td>
<td>Creating FSA ID and FAFSA Q and A</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4250 E. Tulare</td>
<td>10/23/19</td>
<td>DREAM Act/AB540 – Completing DREAM Act application</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUNNYSIDE</td>
<td>9/18/19</td>
<td>Creating FSA ID and FAFSA Q and A</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Meet in Theater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1019 S. Peach</td>
<td>10/22/19</td>
<td>FAFSA Night: Completing application online</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
<td>Meet in Theater</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information, parents should contact their student’s high school counselor or Gloria Ponce Rodriguez at (559) 248-7467.
Edison High School Senior Shadows Doctors over the Summer

Edison High School senior Ariana Infante is not intimidated by hard work. Although just 16 years old, she has already experienced the real world of being a doctor.

Over the past summer, she spent two weeks working with faculty physicians at UCSF Fresno researching health issues and examining data.

“A life defining experience,” said Ariana, when asked to describe her summer break.

Not only did she examine data, Ariana shadowed residents during rounds with patients at the Obstetrics/Gynecology Department at Community Regional Medical Center. The experience confirmed to her that she needs to work hard in order to become a doctor.

“The experience was scary because you can hear about residents being in school for so many years and you can’t imagine yourself doing it and once you are done you never stop learning. It is a bit intimidating, but you also get to see the patient care side of it, and it is very inspiring,” Ariana said.

Being bilingual, she knows she will be able to communicate better with patients and make them feel more comfortable by talking to them in their native language.

“There is a social disparity in health care in our community. People of color have less access to health care and good quality health care,” she said.

Ariana, who has a 4.32 GPA, wants to go to medical school in California so that she can remain close to home and her parents, Socorro and Francisco. Socorro, a domestic worker, and Francisco, who works in construction, have instilled in their only child a strong sense of determination. Ariana will be the first in her immediate family to attend college, although her parents inspired her in other ways, including with their work ethic.

Ariana knows that going to medical school will not be an easy or short road. She is in the midst of preparing essays for her college applications and started building a network with teachers and mentors early in high school. She seeks out peers who have similar goals.

Her advice to other students: “Surround yourself with people who support you and will actually try to bring you up.”

Through the Biomedicine Pathway at Edison, she was able to learn alongside doctors at Community Regional Medical Center over the summer.

“I’m training, preparing mentally for something that I want to achieve,” she said.

One day, a high-risk pregnant patient came in, bleeding and in pain. In a matter of minutes, the baby passed away and medically there was nothing they could have done to stop it.

“I witnessed a moment that was fragile and shattering, and that is life changing,” Ariana said, with tears in her eyes.

A few minutes later she experienced the opposite: Another patient was crying happy tears after seeing her baby for the first time in an ultrasound.

During the summer, Ariana learned a lesson that will stay with her forever: that life is full of endings and beginnings.

Ariana Infante is in the Biomedicine Pathway at Edison High School and wants to be a doctor.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Edison High School Senior Shadows Doctors over the Summer

Rolling out the Green Carpet

Workers adjust the new synthetic turf at McLane High School’s stadium on Aug. 8. McLane started the new school year with updates to its stadium, new baseball and softball fields and restoration of adjacent practice fields. A new pool will be done in January.

GET THE FACTS ABOUT Plastics, Metals & Glass!

Every year, Americans throw away 35 billion plastic bottles.

Recycling just 1 soda can saves enough electricity to operate a TV for up to 3 hours.

Glass bottles take over 1 million years to decompose in landfills.

RECYCLE YOUR CRV BOTTLES & CANS!

Want to learn more about recycling? Call (559) 621-1111 to book a recycling presentation for your class!
**Student Parent Early Learning Center Opens at Roosevelt High**

When students become parents, staying in school can be difficult. Fresno Unified has opened a new Student Parent Early Learning Center at Roosevelt High School to help young parents become college and career ready graduates while their children are cared for in a nurturing environment. Six children are currently enrolled.

The Early Learning Department has designated the space formerly known as Parent and Child Education (PACE) in the East Hall as the new Student Parent Early Learning Center. The district held an open house on Aug. 5 to introduce the staff to parents and families.

The room is equipped for children 6 weeks through 3 years of age. District early learning staff provide enriched care. Student parents receive holistic ongoing support through the Student Parent Navigator, which includes development of a successful academic plan and home visitations.

The Student Parent Early Learning Center is dedicated specifically to support student parents in the district.

“Young parents may need more support than other students to complete their basic education so that they can achieve and excel along with their peers. Providing them with a place where their children are cared for and nurtured is part of our commitment to help build futures in our community,” said Superintendent Bob Nelson.

Wishon Elementary Teachers Prepare for First Day

Staff gathered at Wishon Elementary School to work on team building during professional development on Aug. 7 prior to the start of school Aug. 12. They were learning a dance to use to engage students during professional development on Aug. 7 prior to the start of school Aug. 12. They were learning a dance to use to engage students.

**PARENT U PROGRAMS**

Continued from page 8

- lwm thib tej kev txawj ua hauj lwm
- Qauv Kawm Ntaww Tshwj Xeeb nrog Cov Tub Txawj Ntse Kawm Ntaww Tshwj Xeeb thib Kev Ncig Xyusas Neeg Qhov Kev Hlaov yuav tham txog:
  - Lub ntsiab ntawm txoj cai kawm ntaww tshwj xeeb, xam nrog rau Tej Tswb Tus nrog Txoj Cai Neeg Xiarn Oo Qhab Kawm Txuj Ci (IDEA)
  - Kev koom tes hauv lb qho IEP li cas
  - Sij hawm rau lus nug thib lus teb rau cov niam txiv los muab lus nug hauv paus tev kawm ntaww kev kawm ntaww tshwj xeeb

Abriendo Puertas/Qhib Qhov Rooj (10 lim tiam) txhawb tsev neeg kev vam meeg thiab muaj ua lus Askiv thiab Mev. Cov ntsiab lus xam nrog rau cov kev nph txhij kawm, tsev neeg kev noj qab nyob zoo thiab pab cov niam txiv cov meeg sawv cev rau lawv cov me nyuam.

Hmo Tsev Neeg Tshawb Fawb, kev koom tes nrog PBS, ib qho kev kawm tsib lim tiam ua lus Askiv, Hmoob thiab Mev us tham txog ntaw lub ntsiab lus rau cov niam txiv hais txog kev pab lawv cov lub kawm ntaww kom dhau los ua neeg sau tau zua qab to taub ntsiab kawm txuj ci ntawm kev tsis sib haum los taw qhia “social media”.

Los ntawm “Hispanic Residents Academy” (13 lim tiam), “Fresno Police Department” npaj muaj tej kev qhia ntxaws txog ntaw lub chaw khiav dej num thiab cov kev khiav dej num rau cov neeg pauh lus Mev.

Tshiab tshiab rau lub xyoo no, Parent University kuj tseem yuav qhib muaj Tsev Neeg College Rooj Sib Tham Loj thiab College Fair nyob rau lub Cuj Hli tim 28, Rooj Cob Qhia “Cyber Safety” rau lub Kaum Ib Hli tim 19 thiab CTE thiab Kev Xaiv Tsev Kawm Niam Txiv Kev Tawm Mus Neig rau Kaum Hli.

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**Be Counted in the 2020 Census!**

**What is the Census?**

The census is an important opportunity for all U.S. residents to be counted in their communities. The U.S. Constitution mandates that a census of the population be conducted every 10 years.

Beginning March 2020, every household is encouraged to complete a census form (either online, mail or phone). Your participation and responses are protected under Title 13 of the U.S. Constitution. We need you and your community counted! With your help we can ensure an accurate and complete count for all.

**Interested in Placing an Ad?**

Directly mailed to more than 155,000 residences and businesses in Fresno Unified. For more information about placing an ad, call (559) 457-3733.

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**PREPARING CAREER READY GRADUATES**
EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Plant Coordinator Helps Create an Inviting Campus at Scandinavian

Young Thao has been the plant coordinator at Scandinavian Middle School for nine years and was an Excellence in Education finalist for the district in February. Scandinavian Principal Julie Ellis said this about Thao: “He ensures our campus is inviting and promotes a culture of high expectations for students and staff.”

What do you enjoy the most about your job? I love my job and enjoy working with the school staff, teachers, students, and parents.

What is the most challenging about your job? The most challenging thing about my job is properly communicating in English, since I’m not a native speaker. Through my job, I’m slowly getting better in that department.

What do you do in your job to make Scandinavian Middle School an inviting and safe campus? I’m a person of action and make sure to respond in a caring manner. Through my actions, I believe I made sure Scandinavian Middle School is a safer place for the community.

Tell us about how you helped a student who arrived from Thailand. I was able to help Atchara Vue during the 2018-19 school year. This happened when students were released to go to lunch. One of the rules in order to walk out to the black top area is that all students must have their I.D. card. On this day, Atchara was stopped by the principal, who asked her for her I.D. card. Since Atchara was from Thailand, and was still in the process of learning English, she did not understand what the principal was asking her. I stepped in and asked her in Hmong, “Koj puas yog Hmoob (Are you Hmong)?” She replied, “Yog (yes),” and that she was from Thailand. I then asked her if she understood what the principal was asking her. Through this, I found out that she did not understand what I.D. was. I then translated to her that I.D. was the abbreviation for identification. Finding out that she did not have her I.D. card, I then took her to the library to get one. While in the library, I introduced her to the librarians. After two weeks, when I followed up with her, I was able to find out that she was able to get multiple resources to help her in school. Some of the sources that helped her were the English-Thai dictionary and many other different books written in Thai and English.

If you could choose a different career, what would it be? If I could choose a different career I would choose to become a teacher who is able to help every student be successful in their futures.

What do you like to do when you are not working? When I’m not working, I spend time babysitting my grandkids. One of the big reasons I enjoy watching my grandkids is because I

See YOUNG THAO
Continued on page 14

Edison High School English Teacher Reads Eight Books a Month

Janina Schulz joined the Edison High School English staff in 2002, where she has spent her entire career. She was a finalist in February for Fresno Unified’s Excellence in Education awards and is a leader among Edison English teachers. Her colleague, Kristie M. Leyba, said Schulz develops rigorous curriculum and engages students through community-oriented assignments. She said about Schulz: “Mrs. Schulz’s commitment to growth and advancement of her students is readily seen in her classes.”

What made you go into teaching? None of the typical careers seemed to interest me. When I was in college I worked for a church as an intern with the high school youth group. I realized that to work well with teenagers, and enjoy it, was not a gift everyone had.

What do you enjoy the most about your job? The kids are by far the best thing about my job. Kids are so flexible and willing to work with you. I look forward to seeing them everyday and learning from them.

Tell us about the zip code project that you do with your students. The idea for the project came out of collaboration time with my accountable community group. Some of the other teachers were part of one of our pathways (Biomed) and said their team was thinking about doing a project where they looked at discrepancies between the health of people living in different parts of the city (zip codes). I adapted the idea to fit with what I wanted my AP Language students to do, which was to write persuasive letters to the mayor of Fresno acknowledging a problem and providing a solution. The kids researched one zip code in Fresno (demographics, access to public transportation, number of grocery stores, etc.) They also had to interview two people living in the zip code. They had to ask questions, such as what the people liked about living in their zip code and what the biggest challenge was about living in their zip code.

With the start of a new school year, what are your main goals for your students this year? One of my main goals is for my students to think deeper about issues that affect themselves and their communities. My colleagues and I have been working on a unit that deals with segregation in America. We will be looking at how our own city still deals with issues of segregation, then we’ll branch out to segregation and racism in the U.S. As always, I want my students to become readers. Despite what many people think, kids actually like to read, and they like to be given time to read, but the key is that kids have to be able to choose what they will read. I have

See JANINA SCHULZ
Continued on page 14
YOUNG THAO  
Continued from page 13

want my daughter to be able to be free to go to college and pursue a better future.

Name one thing most people do not know about you. One thing most people don’t know about me is that I’m dependable and always go beyond my job description.

What is your dream vacation? One of my dream vacations is to go see Mount Rushmore and see the four faces of great U.S. presidents. I also have a dream of working for FUSD for as long as I can.

JANINA SCHULZ  
Continued from page 13

a massive library of high interest, relevant books in my classroom where kids can go to choose a book, or they can bring their own. Last year for my English 3 Honors class, some kids read eight books and some kids read 20. Helping them get hooked on books and rediscover their love for reading was so exciting to me.

Tell us about your work as a presenter at conferences. I have been a presenter twice at Yosemite Conference, which is the conference put on by Fresno Area Council of English Teachers (FACET). The first time I presented, my workshop was about student choice with independent reading. The second time I presented with my colleague, Diane Waite, and our workshop was about how to give meaningful, timely feedback to students. As president of FACET I sit on the state board for California Association of Teachers of English (CATE) and so most of the time I work to help plan conferences (both the CATE conference and Yosemite Conference).

How many book clubs are you part of and how many books do you read a month? Just to give some background, I didn’t used to be such an avid reader. I would typically read maybe 15-20 books a year. When I started teaching AP classes about eight years ago, I realized I needed to up my reading game. At some point we got rid of cable, so I watched a lot less TV, and read even more. Then I rediscovered the library and vowed not to buy books anymore. Having a due date also helps me to read books faster. I have only been a part of book clubs for a couple of years. I regularly meet with two different book clubs. One club is a group of friends who have kids around the same age as my kids, and the other club is a group of teachers who also work at FPU (I teach a class in the credential program as adjunct faculty). FACET also has a book club, but we are more seasonal with our meetings. Now I would say I read about eight books a month. This summer I read about 20 books.

What is your all-time favorite book? I’m not sure I can answer this question! I can’t even narrow it down to my favorite book from this year so far. Usually what I do is I make a list of my top 10 books from the year. So far this year my favorites have been “Where the Crawdad’s Sing,” “Killers of the Flower Moon,” “Washington Black,” “The Library Book,” “A Place for Us (Mirza),” “The 57 Bus,” “The Overstory,” “A Gentleman in Moscow,” “The Dark Heart” and “Their Eyes Were Watching God.”

What book have you recommended to your students lately? Having students who love when I give them a pile of books to read is my absolute favorite thing. One of my students last year was really into WW2 fiction books. I recommended “Salt to the Sea” (Sepetys), “Between Shades of Gray” (Sepetys), and “Sarah’s Key” (de Rosnay), which all have to do with WW2. I recommended a couple of graphic novels for more reluctant readers such as “Stitches” (Small) and “This One Summer” (Tamaki). Also, for reluctant readers, novels written in verse are a great option because they go quickly, and students can feel accomplished.

If you could choose a different career, what would it be? In another life I would like to be an art curator at a museum, or a CIA agent, or a travel agent.

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State Center Community College District
County, at 2.5%. Again, these are signs of progress and I look forward to building on that momentum.

We have much more to share about the progress and future of our district. I invite you to join me at Fresno Unified’s State of Education on Oct. 14 to hear more about the incredible work going on in our district in the name of our students. The annual event supports the Fresno Unified Scholarship Fund as we look to help provide financial support to the district’s next generation of community leaders. You can learn more about State of Education by visiting fresnounified.org. It’s going to be another great year and I invite our community and the Fresno family to join me and give voice as we build futures together!

**Puntuaciones de Exámenes y Tasas de Graduación en Aumento**

En cuestión de momentos, las vacaciones de verano llegaron y desaparecieron cuando más de 74,000 estudiantes regresaron a la escuela el mes pasado. Desde el momento en que llegaron a la puerta principal, los estudiantes fueron recibidos de un caluroso y apalancado mientras la familia de la escuela los recibía. Se vio de escuela en escuela; la emoción que rodeaba el nuevo año escolar era palpable. A pesar de las inquietudes del primer día, los estudiantes se conectaron de inmediato con el personal, se reunieron con nuevos amigos, se instalaron en sus nuevos entornos y adoptaron una cultura de aprendizaje, señales claras de que el año escolar tuvo un gran comienzo.

Con el reciente lanzamiento de las tasas de graduación de 2017-18 y los resultados SBAC del año escolar pasado, tenemos un panorama claro de cómo nuestros estudiantes han progresado. Se ha resaltado una serie de logros significativos que nos han inspirado a avanzar en el camino de la excelencia académica.

**Continued from page 3**

**Qhab Nia Xeem thiab Njap Nawb Kawm Tias Nce**

Ib qho yeeb meem ntawm lwj sih jihaw, so lai cajt nqaj hqhu tbw los txog thiaj tbw dua lawmb raws li coob tsajh li ntwawm 74,000 tug tub kawm ntwawm tau roo tuaj kawm ntwawm hli dhis hlu los.

Ntx ntej ntwawm xwb lawb sawy sawm raws nyob haur ntej, tej tub kawm ntwawm tau hais los lus los zoo thiaj tej qhia jhaw raws li sawy sawm yim neeg tau roo tas txias lawv roo tuaj yam sawy siab. Koj tbw pom ib lub tsev kawm ntwawm rau ib lub tsev kawm ntwawm; kev thiaj kev paq siqig lub yxoo kawm ntwawm thiaj pamo yim yoj. Xxiawm tias thiaj hluh mbbj muaj ib yam kqajsth twg, tej tub kawm ntwawm muaj tej kev si bx tuaj nroj tej qhia jhaw thiab hluh raws kqajsth kev kawm sun yim yoj. Koj tbw pom lub tsev kawm ntwawm rau ib lub tsev kawm ntwawm; kev thiaj xqaj lej laj xqaj kev thiaj xqaj kev kawm ntwawm.

Ntx qhooq kev kev sib sawy sawm thiab sawy sawm kev xam nrog rau yuav muab yam kev xam nrog rau yuav muab yam kev xam nrog rau yuav.

Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawn Ntwawm tau muaj kev tuajh xqaj kauj had thiaj hluh raws kev ntej los ntej tuaj hluh raws kev ntej los ntej.

**Hauv sib**

Ntx qhooq kev kev sib sawy sawm thiab sawy sawm kev xam nrog rau yuav muab yam kev xam nrog rau yuav muab yam kev xam nrog rau yuav.

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Ntx qhooq kev kev sib sawy sawm thiab sawy sawm kev xam nrog rau yuav muab yam kev xam nrog rau yuav muab yam kev xam nrog rau yuav.

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Ntx qhooq kev kev sib sawy sawm thiab sawy sawm kev xam nrog rau yuav muab yam kev xam nrog rau yuav muab yam kev xam nrog rau yuav.

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Ntx qhooq kev kev sib sawy sawm thiab sawy sawm kev xam nrog rau yuav muab yam kev xam nrog rau yuav muab yam kev xam nrog rau yuav.
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