



BUILDING futures

A Publication of the Fresno Unified School District

P R E P A R I N G C A R E E R R E A D Y G R A D U A T E S

First Graduating Class of Steve's Scholars Earns Scholarships

Six years ago, Francine and Murray Farber established the Steve's Scholars program as a lasting memorial to their son, who died unexpectedly in 2001 at age 42.

Their goal was to encourage students at Tehipite Middle School to strive for good grades and attendance, social responsibility and college.

On May 1, the Farbers will have the pleasure of awarding the first Steve's Scholars scholarships to 26 high school graduating seniors. The students will receive \$1,000 scholarships for each of two years after successfully meeting all of the requirements for Steve's Scholars since they were in the seventh grade.

"We have waited six years to congratulate our first scholarship winners," Francine Farber said. "We are thrilled to realize that this group is the first of a long line of scholarship winners to come."

For the Steve's Scholars banquet, the recipients will return to their middle school auditorium to celebrate with family, their favorite teacher and guests, including members of the Fresno Unified Board of Education, local dignitaries, and school staff members who have worked hard to keep the students on track for six years.

The keynote speaker will be Dr. Joseph Castro, president of Fresno State University. Fresno Unified Superintendent Bob Nelson will also speak.

To achieve a Steve's Scholar scholarship, students had to maintain at least a B average and at least 95% attendance. They were also required to take California's college preparatory courses, known as A through G classes, and complete community service annually.

The 26 recipients amassed 2,766 hours of community service, ranging from 30 hours a student to 314 hours.

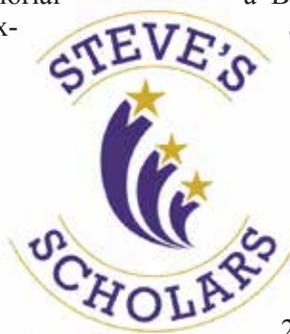
"We feel Steve's Scholars motivated these students to have outstanding attendance, to succeed academically and to raise their cultural horizons," Murray Farber said. "We are proud of them and hope other benefactors will step up to help our youth at more schools. Our young people deserve their support."

When the first Steve's Scholars cohort left Tehipite in 2014, it was made up of 58 students. Ten left the district over the years. Of the remaining 48, more than half qualified for the scholarships.

The 26 students have ambitious college and career aspirations, ranging from the medical field to producing music to law enforcement. (To learn more about the Steve's Scholars recipients, see their profiles on pages 4 and 5.)

Steve's Scholars is funded with \$1 million from their son's estate, a gift

See **STEVE'S SCHOLARS**
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Murray and Francine Farber give eighth grade students Steve's Scholars pins at Tehipite Middle School in the spring of 2017. The Farbers will award the first Steve's Scholars scholarships May 1.

Safety for Students and Staff is Top Priority for Fresno Unified

Concerns about the safety of schools have escalated following campus shootings in Florida and Maryland this past spring. Fresno Unified has a number of safety and security measures in place, and is continually assessing the safety of its campuses.

For several years, Fresno Police Department officers have been assigned to middle and high school campuses. Wawona School's officer is a Fresno County deputy sheriff because the school is located in a county island.

These officers not only help keep campuses safe, they

establish beneficial connections with students, families and the school neighborhoods.

For special events, such as an athletic event, additional law enforcement is provided.

In addition, probation officers are assigned to all comprehensive high schools and Cambridge High School, in partnership with the Fresno County Probation Department.

Police officers assigned to schools

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PARENTS

Fathers and Male Mentors Encouraged to Attend Special Events in May

Elementary schools across the district will celebrate fathers, grandfathers and other men who play important roles in the lives of Fresno Unified students with Father's Day events on May 18.

This first-time project is sponsored by the district's new Office of African American Academic Acceleration.

The goal is to increase the engagement of fathers and father figures in their student's school and classroom, which has a direct correlation to academic achievement.

"Events like this help to combat the negative stereotypes that fathers are less engaged in their children's lives. In truth we know that men play a vitally important role as parental figures for our young men and women," said Wendy McCulley, executive director of the African American Academic Acceleration initiative. "This is an opportunity to celebrate their contributions and deepen their involvement in the classroom."

The focus of the events at campuses will be on honoring the men who are central to students' lives and provide an opportunity for them to learn more about connecting with their student's school.

The day will also include a time to visit their child's classroom to read to students, volunteer in the learning process or to observe.

This is the second major event for the Office of African American Academic Acceleration this semester. On Feb. 13, the office organized the district's first Black College Expo, connecting more than 400 students with 26 historically black colleges and universities at Fresno High School's gym.

By the end of the event, colleges made 249 offers of admissions and awarded more than \$900,000 in scholarships.

Día del Padre Llega Temprano en el Distrito

Las escuelas primarias en todo el distrito festejarán a los padres, abuelos y otros hombres que juegan un papel importante en las vidas de los estudiantes del

Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno con eventos de, Día del Padre el 18 de mayo.

Este primer proyecto es patrocinado por la nueva Oficina de African American Academic Acceleration (Aceleración Académica Afroamericana) del distrito.

El objetivo es aumentar la participación de padres y figuras de padres en la escuela y salones de clase de sus estudiantes, la cual tiene una correlación directa al rendimiento académico.

"Eventos como este ayudan a combatir el estereotipo negativo de que los padres participan menos en la vida de su(s) niño(s). Sabemos, que en verdad los hombres juegan un papel vitalmente importante como figuras paternas de nuestros hombres y mujeres jóvenes," dijo Wendy McCulley, directora ejecutiva de la iniciativa African American Academic Acceleration. "Esta es una oportunidad para celebrar sus contribuciones e intensificar su participación en el salón de clase."

El enfoque de los eventos en el plantel será en honor a los hombres que son primordial en la vida de los estudiantes y les provee la oportunidad de aprender más acerca del enlace con la escuela de sus estudiantes.

El evento incluirá también, tiempo para visitar el salón de clase de su niño/a, leerle a los estudiantes, ser voluntario en el proceso de aprendizaje o para observar.

Este es el segundo evento importante para la Oficina African American Academic Acceleration. El 13 de febrero, la oficina organizó la primera Exposición Black College del distrito, conectando a más de 400 estudiantes con 26 colegios y universidades históricamente en el gimnasio de la Escuela Preparatoria Fresno.

Al final del evento, los colegios elaboraron 249 ofertas de admisiones y otorgaron más de \$900,000 en becas.

Txiv Hnub Mas Los Sai Kawg rau Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv Li

Tej tsev kawm ntawv them qis thoob



Elementary students throughout the district will benefit from Father's Day events on May 18 to honor fathers and father figures and increase their participation in their children's schools and education. The new initiative is part of the work of the new Office of African American Academic Acceleration.

plaws hauv paus tsev kawm ntawv yuav ua koob tsheej kev lom zem rau leej txiv, leej yawg thiab lwm tus txiv neej nws muaj feem tseem ceeb rau lub neej ntawm Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv tej tub kawm ntawv nrog rau koob tsheej Txiv Hnub rau lub Tsib Hlis tim 18.

Nov yog dej num thawj zog raug txhawb los ntawm hauv paus tsev kawm ntawv lub Chaw Khiav Dej Num tshiab ntawm African American Academic Acceleration.

Lub hom phiaj yog los nce kev txuam leej txiv thiab tej uas ua leej txiv hauv lawv tej tub kawm ntawv lub tsev kawm ntawv thiab chav kawm, tau muaj feem ncaj nraim rau kev kawm tau txuj ci.

"Tej koob tsheej zoo li no pab tiv thaiv tau tej kev tsis zoo uas leej txiv muaj kev txuam tsawg tsawg hauv lawv tej me nyuam lub neej. Qhov tseeb tiag peb paub lawm tias txiv neej muaj feem tseem ceeb tam li lub cev ua niam ua txiv rau peb tej txiv neej thiab tej poj niam hlus," Wendy McCulley hais li, thawj coj ntawm African American Academic Acceleration. "No yog ib lub zoo sij hawm los ua kev zoo siab rau lawv txoj kev koom tes thiab kev txuam nyob rau hauv chav kawm ntau ntxiv."

Qhov kev ua ntsees ntawm tej koob tsheej hauv tej vaj loog kawm yuav yog los hwm tej txiv neej nws muaj feem tseem ceeb rau tub kawm ntawv lub neej thiab ib lub zoo sij hawm rau lawv los kawm ntau txog kev sib raug zoo nrog lawv tus tub kawm ntawv lub tsev kawm ntawv.

Hnub ntawm kuj tseem yuav muaj sij hawm rau mus ncig saib lawv tus me nyuam lub chav kawm los nyeem ntawv rau tej tub kawm ntawv, neeg tuaj yeem pab dawb hauv txoj kev kawm los yog los ntsuam xyuas.

Nov yog lub koob tsheej loj loj zaum ob rau Lub Chaw Khiav Dej Num ntawm African American Academic Acceleration rau lub ncau sij hawm kawm ntawv no. Nyob rau lub Ob Hlis tim 13, lub chaw khiav dej num tau npaj muaj hauv paus tsev kawm ntawv thawj lub Black College Expo, txuas tau coob tshaj li ntawm 400 tug tub kawm ntawv nrog rau 26 lub college dub thiab universities hauv Fresno High School lub chaw pov npas.

Thaum xaus ntawm lub koob tsheej, tej colleges tau qhib txais 249 tug tub kawm ntawv thiab tau txais ntau tshaj li ntawm \$900,000 nyiaj pab kawm ntawv.



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SUPERINTENDENT'S Message

This Spring Brings First Graduating Class for Patiño and Steve's Scholars

Here we are in the month of May, with Mother's Day just around the corner, a time to honor and thank the amazing women in our lives. As a father of seven, I know with absolute certainty that I would not be where I am today if not for the guidance, love and countless sacrifices of my mother,



Bob Nelson
Superintendent

Eva, my mother-in-law, Charlene, and my beautiful wife, Tiffany. Their support has been instrumental in helping me achieve my dreams, especially of late. In addition to taking the helm as superintendent of Fresno Unified this past year, I have been simultaneously completing my doctorate from USC Rossier School of Education. Later this month, with my wife, children and family in tow, I will once again walk across the USC gradu-

ation stage extremely blessed to have my dream team with me on what will be the final leg of my own post-secondary educational journey.

For our Fresno Unified families, May also represents the final stretch of the school year as we head into the last five weeks of instruction. This time of year, students and staff are busy with California state testing, end-of-year projects, finals, Advanced Placement (AP) tests and graduation ceremonies. While many activities of the month are not new to us, Fresno Unified is thrilled to be celebrating a couple of "firsts" in the coming weeks.

First, next month, the district will celebrate its first graduating class from the Phillip J. Patiño School of Entrepreneurship. In the fall of 2015, the first entrepreneurial high school of its kind opened its doors to nearly 200 10th-graders. Much like the educational leader it was named after, Patiño represented a shift in educational instruction and student learning that had students not only collaborating with local businesses, but also develop-

ing and marketing their own businesses.

The vision for Patiño students has remained constant: provide a safe environment where students are empowered to be critical thinkers, problem solve, collaborate and experience failure. Yes, experience failure. At Patiño, failure is part of successful learning, knowing that from failures come endless opportunities for success.

Later this month, similar to defending my doctoral dissertation, Patiño seniors will defend their learning before a panel of teachers, parents and community members. As part of their defense, they will speak to the application of their academic disciplines/principles, creation of their business, and real-world experiences/applications that have already played a role in launching this group of future leaders.

Second, thanks to the generosity of Fresno residents Murray and Francine

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SPANISH AND HMONG
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Message from Karina Macias, Nutrition Program Manager at UC CalFresh

UC Extension Partners with District for Healthier Students

The University of California has 10 campuses of higher learning across California and includes Cooperative Extension offices in every county, including one here in Fresno County.



Karina Macias
Nutrition Program Manager
UC CalFresh

UC Cooperative Extension was established more than 100 years ago when members of the U.S. Congress realized that scientific advancements weren't making their way to the people of the country, but were rather stashed in ivory towers of higher education. Cooperative Extension was created to bring agricultural science to the country's farmers, plus information that would make the lives of families and young people better.

In Fresno County, one of UC Cooperative Extension's roles is providing nutrition education to families and young

people through a program called UC CalFresh. Over the past several years, the Fresno County UC CalFresh Nutrition Education Program has partnered with Fresno Unified Food Services on projects centered around youth nutrition education. We've provided nutrition lessons to fourth-graders on field trips to the district Nutrition Center, where they toured the facility and learned where their school meals come from and why eating healthy is important.

UC CalFresh has also partnered with Fresno Unified Food Services and Dairy Council of California for the Smarter Lunchrooms Movement, in which our certified technical assistance providers helped schools change the school lunchroom environment at 16 middle schools and 10 elementary schools. These technical assistance providers used strategies to encourage students to eat healthy food offered in their school lunchroom. Example strategies include signs promoting healthy foods using catchy and fun names, renaming the lunchroom to a café and displaying foods like fruits in clear bowls.

Recently, UC CalFresh worked with the

district's Food Services, Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission, Fresno State and USDA to bring the "Fresh Grub" campaign to Fresno Unified students. Fresh Grub seeks to connect students with fresh, locally grown foods. We held a Fresh Grub farmers meet and greet in February with Fresno Unified's Food Services Department to give farmers a chance to identify new food selling opportunities and ensure that kids have access to quality food grown in their own communities.

We also coordinated a taste test of fresh locally grown jicama with students and their parents at Calwa Elementary School. The feedback collected from this tasting will be used to decide whether to offer this food on Fresno Unified school lunch menus.

UC Cal Fresh focuses on educating youth and their parents on nutrition, physical activity, and exposing students to a variety of healthy foods through bi-monthly taste testing inside classrooms. We promote lifelong healthy eating habits that impact the long-term health of students and their parents.

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STEVE'S SCHOLARS 2018

STEVE'S SCHOLARS Continued from page 1

to the Farbers from his widow, who wishes to remain anonymous. Steve Farber was an energetic Silicon Valley entrepreneur and investor. About a year after retiring, he was running unopposed for fire commissioner in a small Washington town when he passed away.

With the original gift now invested

by the Fresno-based Central Valley Community Foundation, the Farbers hope the Steve's Scholars program will support an even larger number of students for many years to come.

The Farbers, who are in their 80s, launched Steve's Scholars to help "level the playing field" for Tehipite, where the average family annual income is about \$18,000.

An additional Tehipite Steve's Scholars fund set up by the Farbers

and contributed to by family and friends has enabled them to provide special opportunities for students to experience the arts and the world outside Fresno. They have taken trips to colleges, toured the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles, and attended plays at the local Roger Rocka Dinner Theater.

The Farbers have also funded "Fifth Grade on Broadway" to provide the more than 6,000 fifth-graders in Fresno Unified with an opportunity to

see a professional theater production written to correlate with their fifth grade social studies curriculum on the American Revolution.

They also funded a summer school program to expose elementary school children to playwriting, drama, stagecraft and costuming.

The Farbers were both born in Brooklyn, N.Y. and have been married for 63 years.



Tang Thao
Duncan Polytechnical High School
College: Fresno State
Career goal: Physical therapist
Quote: "My career

goal is to one day be a successful physical therapist and help improve the lives of others in my community."



Humberto Osegueda
Edison High School
College: Fresno State
Career goal: Doctor
Quote: "The Steve's Scholars program is

unique and we are the first generation of Steve's Scholars. The program has done its best to reach out to students. I encourage students to stay on track and be humble at all times."



Lucilia Vasquez
Edison High School
College: Fresno State
Career goal: Accounting
Quote: "I like the Steve's Scholars program because

it challenged and motivated me to have good grades and attendance. Not only that, but the program gave me an opportunity to serve my community by doing volunteer hours. I gained amazing experiences by helping others and being able to make a difference."



Francisco J. Vasquez
Fresno High School
College: San Jose State
Career goal: Photographer
Quote: "My advice to other students

in the Steve's Scholars program is to try your hardest to maintain a 3.0 GPA and to seek tutoring assistance the moment you are struggling with a course so you get the help you need before falling behind."



Marco A. Molina-Ruiz
Fresno High School
College: Fresno State
Career goal: Registered nurse or detective
Quote: "I would

like to congratulate the Farber family for making this possible for us and giving us something to strive toward. The program is amazing and I'm very appreciative."



Patricia Montes
Fresno High School
College: Fresno State
Career goal: Pediatric nurse
Quote: "Throughout high school, I've enjoyed helping

others, including volunteering to help teachers in any way that I can. My advice for future Steve's Scholars is to ask for help when you need it because someone is always there to help you."



Veronica Sanchez
Fresno High School
College: Fresno State
Career goal: Registered nurse
Quote: "One of my goals is to become a nurse and be able

to help sick children. When I was younger, I would get sick a lot, and I feel that by being a nurse, I will be giving back to those people who have helped me."



Karla R. Pedraza
McLane High School
College: Fresno City College
Career goal: Elementary teacher
Quote: "I have volunteered and participated in

multiple activities and I encourage other Steve's Scholars to not slack off. Do everything on time. Don't wait till the last minute and do as much community services as possible."



Alma D. Renteria
McLane High School
College: UC Santa Barbara
Career goal: University professor of linguistics
Quote: "Five years from now, I picture

myself studying abroad while working on my linguistics doctorate in order to be a university professor."



Yeng Her
McLane High School
College: California Christian College
Career goal: Pastor
Quote: "I thank God for this scholarship and the Farber family for

their generous gift. Remember this generous gift so that maybe one day you will do the same for others."



Jennifer Xiong
McLane High School
College: Fresno State
Career goal: Phlebotomist
Quote: "The Steve's Scholars program is such a

great guide and a great scholarship. A lot of things can affect your grades and your attendance, so always be on time, and participate in school activities."



Araceli Viramontes-Sanchez
Roosevelt High School
College: UC Davis
Career goal: Veterinarian
Quote: "What I like

the most about the Steve's Scholars program is the motivation that it gives me to push through school and earn high grades."



STEVE'S SCHOLARS 2018



Berenice Bello
Roosevelt High School
College: Fresno City College
Career goal: Photographer
Quote: "Although many people

don't support my goal of becoming a photographer, I am still going to achieve this goal because this is my dream."



Jacquelyne M. Casillas
Roosevelt High School
College: Fresno State
Career goal: Music producer
Quote: "I'm in the

marching/concert band, steel band, and Latin jazz ensemble. I'm going to major in composition at Fresno State and then move to Los Angeles to produce music."



Julisa Mijangos Elorza
Roosevelt High School
College: Fresno State
Career goal: High school English teacher

Quote: "The help that I have received from this program has been extremely beneficial. Whenever I needed help or guidance, Steve's Scholars has become an essential tool to help me with some of my troubles."



Kevin Gaxiola
Roosevelt High School
College: Fresno State
Career goal: Physical therapist
Quote: "The No. 1 piece of advice I

can give to a Steve's Scholar is to be consistent. If you are not consistent, you will not make it. You have to maintain stellar grades, great attendance, and complete various hours of community service hours."



Kher Xiong
Roosevelt High School
College: Fresno State
Career goal: Fashion designer
Quote: "My career goal is to start a

fashion brand or work with a brand as a designer. I plan to major in business management."



Lauren Samuth
Roosevelt High School
College: Fresno State
Career goal: Undecided
Quote: "I plan to get a bachelor's

degree and hopefully make a good stable career out of it. I will be the first in my family to get a bachelor's degree. That's a big deal for me!"



Maria V. Lopez Coria
Roosevelt High School
College: CSU Stanislaus
Career goal: Registered nurse
Quote: "I have

really enjoyed volunteering in my community and becoming vice president of the Steve's Scholars Club at Roosevelt High School. Being part of the program has absolutely helped to strengthen my leadership skills."



Miguel Avila Garcia Jr.
Roosevelt High School
College: Fresno State
Career goal: P.E. teacher
Quote: "The most

incredible thing about the Steve's Scholars program was I met so many great people. I remember helping out in the Boys and Girls Clubs with food distribution for Thanksgiving and reading to kids."



Oscar H. Santibanez
Roosevelt High School
College: Fresno State
Career goal: Art teacher
Quote: "I hope to

come back to my high school to teach. I cannot wait to be able to motivate my group of students to become the leaders of this world."



Pablo J. Ibarra Salazar
Roosevelt High School
College: Fresno State
Career goal: Civil engineer
Quote: "In three to

five years, I see myself as a successful engineer who gets paid well."



Phoua Yang
Roosevelt High School
College: Fresno State
Career goal: Obstetrician-gynecologist
Quote: "I never

thought about helping the community or giving back. Being in this program is a great opportunity to give back to the community. You're not only helping the community, but you're also building up your resume."



Rosenda Luna
Roosevelt High School
College: Fresno City College
Career goal: Police officer
Quote: "My career goal is to

be a police officer so I can help the community and protect the people. I care about others. When you help others, you feel good about yourself."



Souksanh Bounthavisack
Roosevelt High School
College: Fresno State
Career goal: Sports agent, physical therapist or athletic

trainer
Quote: "Participating in Steve's Scholars helped me maintain my GPA, attendance rate, and motivated me to do more community service."



Azucena J. Ramirez
Sunnyside High School
College: Undecided
Career goal: Primary care physician
Quote: "I am the

first generation in my family to attend college. I hope to attend one of the Universities of California and major in physiology in order to attend medical school and become a primary care physician."



Students at Tehipite Middle School are on their way to the cafeteria for the Steve's Scholars kickoff in August of 2012.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Homan Teacher Started Career Later, Makes up for Lost Time

Michelle Chavez has been teaching for three years at Homan Elementary School. While obtaining her credential through a Tulare County Office of Education program, she was named Intern of the Year in 2017. She was a finalist for a Fresno Unified Excellence in Education award in February. She teaches third grade. Chavez is adept at meeting students' social/emotional needs as well as challenging them academically. "It is no wonder that despite the academic and social challenges at Homan, Michelle's students consistently have high test scores and always show tremendous growth at the end of the year," said colleague Teresa Tibstra.

You came to teaching later than some. What has that been like?

It has been a gift. I was married and had my first son when I was 19 years old. Nineteen years later, I had my second son. Being a mom the second time, that much later, I appreciated motherhood so much more. Starting to teach later in life is just like that. I bring with me a little more wisdom and skill to teaching. I appreciate this whole experience at a whole other level. I

am grateful to take on this adventure now in my life, because I have been able to create deeper connections with the content, with learning, and most importantly, my students.

What is the most difficult part of your job?

Knowing the backgrounds and situations of some of my students can be heartbreaking. Knowing I can only do so much is frustrating. Knowing I have a limited time (one school year) to make an impact is difficult. The end of the year is hard for me when it is time to say goodbye because I come to care for each and every one of them.

What is most rewarding about your job?

The most rewarding part of my job is when I can SEE I made a difference. When a student FINALLY grasps a concept, when a parent tells me I am a blessing to their family, when I witness a behaviorally challenged student change their actions, and then grow academically are just a few examples of the rewards. Knowing I made a difference is rewarding beyond compare.



Homan Elementary School third-grade teacher Michelle Chavez praises Maryjane Martinez's insightful answer with a heart symbol while, clockwise, Nayeli Sotelo, Yoselyn Flores, Christian Carmona and Jada Estrada look on.

How do you motivate students to learn?

First, it is of utmost importance that I make a connection with each and every one of my students. It is not easy, but it is possible! I explain my expectations for them. I also set high standards. I expect them to set expectations and goals for themselves. Those connections and expectations contribute to them wanting to please me by doing well and not disappointing me. Then,

I help them understand that it is just as important to please themselves and not disappoint themselves. Once they understand that concept, there is a shift in learning. Second, I will use absolutely anything I can to teach my kids. I have put on Super Mario music and jumped along a number line I created on the floor in my classroom to

See **MICHELLE CHAVEZ**
Continued on page 9

Viking Elementary Library Technician Fosters Love of Reading

Karen Dye, a library media technician (LMT) at Viking Elementary School for 18 years, was honored in February as a finalist for an Excellence in Education

award. She is much admired on her campus for her collaboration with staff to meet student needs and ability to connect with students. "She is a great

listener and mentors the students on a daily basis through her conversations with them," said Principal Christie Yang.

resources to teachers or students, reading to students, keeping the library in order, textbooks, ordering books and supplies for the library, organization and upkeep of computers and equipment, we do it all. And of course, making the library an exciting and welcoming place for our students and families.



Viking Elementary School library technician Karen Dye reads with third-grader Veronica Figueroa, left, and preschooler Chinonso Okoro.

What is the best part of your job?

The best part of my job is interacting with the students on a daily basis. I have the privilege of seeing almost 800 students every week. Whether it is reading a story to a class or checking out books to individual students, I try to make sure each child feels valued and welcome in the library.

What is the most challenging part of your job?

The most challenging part of my job is having enough time. At the elementary level, the LMTs are responsible for everything that takes place in the library. Whether it is providing

How do you get students excited about reading?

If you want students to be excited about reading you have to convey that excitement to them. I have found one of the best way to get students excited about reading is by reading to them or to "book talk" a book. Our students

See **KAREN DYE**
Continued on page 13



Middle School Students Get their Geek on at Tournament of Tech

More than 600 middle school students competed March 17 at the 11th annual Tournament of Technology, showing off their tech skills in a lively, fun environment at Roosevelt High School.



For video, go to vimeo.com/fresnounified/tournamentoftech2018

The competition is the largest of its kind in the state, featuring 14 technology-based events in three categories: Robotics, Video Production and Design. Competitions are tweaked each year to keep them current.

In Division I, Kings Canyon Middle School placed first, followed by Sequoia Middle School and Computech Middle School. In Division II, Tioga Middle School placed first, followed by Scandinavian Middle School and Ahwahnee Middle School.

“The Tournament of Technology is a fun way to get students engaged in technology in middle schools, and maybe even spark an interest in a career in technology,” said Kurt Madden, chief technology officer for the district.

Each event has an online competition that takes place the week before the tournament. Students compete online in design, website development, computer programming and video advertisements, public service announcements and movie trailers.

Many middle schools offer a technology-oriented elective during the school day where students rotate through the 14 different events, creating, developing design documents or websites, printing out and testing cars, bridges and other 3D objects and competing with their peers.

The competition relies on the support of volunteers from the district and the community, including 60 judges.



Terronez Middle School’s Tournament of Technology teacher Francisco Arciniega, back left, watches his team, from left, Angel Blanco, Zane Cerda, Tommy Bounthapanya, Luis Martin and Billy Yang operate their robot. Volunteer judge Brian Sue, from Sunnyside High School, is in the back right.

Business Owner Receives Diploma, 60 Years after Dropping Out

It took 60 years, but John Lawson finally has his diploma from Fresno High School.

Since dropping out of Fresno High as a sophomore, Lawson has found more success than many who have a diploma, growing a hauling business from a single diesel truck to 400 trucks at five locations up and down the Valley. Lawson Rock & Oil Inc. is the largest hauler of crude oil in California, with 350 employees.

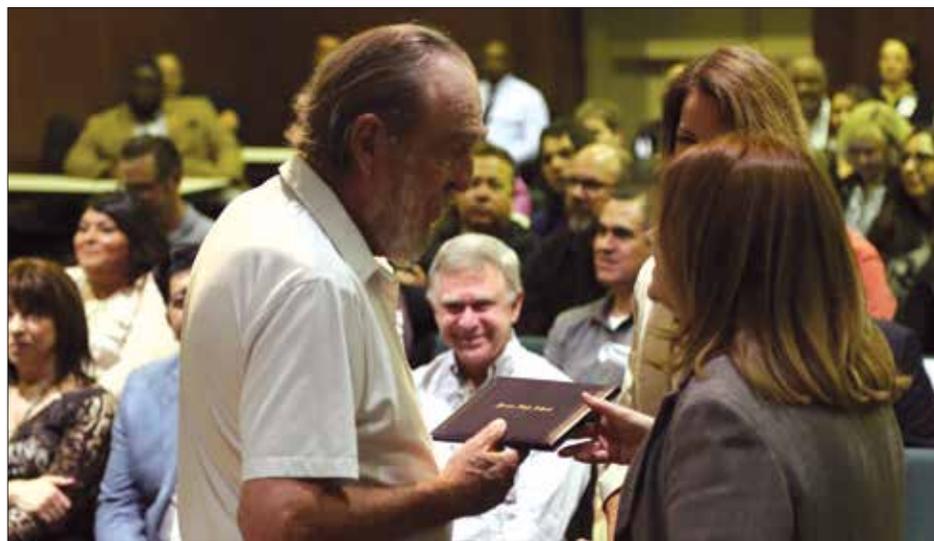
But Lawson said it bothered him over the years that he had not finished high school with the class of 1958.

“I always had regrets,” said Lawson, 78.

He finally had that missing certificate in hand when Fresno High area board member Carol Mills presented him with an honorary diploma on March 7 at a Fresno Unified Board of Education meeting. It was the first honorary diploma Fresno Unified has ever awarded to a living person.

Lawson, never one for a fuss, was surprised to see Fresno Mayor Lee Brand and other local dignitaries in the audience to congratulate him.

Lawson is also on the Fresno County Planning Commission and is a former member of the California



John Lawson, who left Fresno High School in 1956 without graduating, receives his honorary diploma at the March 7 board meeting from board member Carol Mills. Lawson is owner of Lawson Rock & Oil Inc. and a philanthropist.

Transportation Commission.

While Lawson does not advocate that students drop out of school, he is a proponent of encouraging students to pursue careers in the trades.

“We have to have people who are capable of working with their hands,” Lawson said.

Lawson knew early on that his passion for trucks was his ticket to success.

“I worked hard all my life. I always knew I would be successful,” he said.

he pursued his dream of starting his own hauling business, interrupted for two years when he went into the U.S. Army.

After his discharge, Lawson worked harder than ever at trucking. When he bought a home on Van Ness Extension, the dean of boys from Fresno High came to visit. Richard Neal had been one of Lawson’s favorites on the Fresno High staff.

Lawson said Neal told him, “I always knew you’d be a success because you were a hard worker.”

His success has allowed him to amass a classic car collection, including 30 1932 Fords. Twenty-five years ago, he launched the Benito Lawson Invitational Golf Tournament in Palm Desert, where he also owns a home. Through the tournament, he has raised \$4 million to support recreational activities for children with autism.

He and his stepfather became good friends, and worked together in Lawson’s trucking business for many years.

Lawson’s advice on how to be successful?

“No matter how smart you are, you cannot afford to not work hard.”



SAFETY ADDITIONS
Continued from page 1

work closely with the district's Safety Office campus safety assistants and school site administrators. For the 2018-19 school year, the Safety Office is recommending that the district hire additional safety staff.

As another step to expand safety in the district, staff is working with the police and sheriff's departments to provide additional training to school and central office staff on how to respond to active threat situations.

The district has been able to utilize new technology to make campuses and the neighborhoods around them safer, with nearly half of the district's schools covered by ShotSpotter, the Fresno Police Department's immediate gunshot detection system.

The district has equipped all campuses with safety features. For example, all

classroom doors can be locked from the inside and have peep holes.

Additional and brighter exterior lighting has been installed at all high schools and middle schools and about one-third of elementary schools, with more lighting underway or planned at the remaining elementary schools.

All high schools and middle schools are equipped with high definition security cameras, which can be utilized by the Fresno Police Department if needed in specific situations. The installation of similar cameras is planned at all elementary schools.

Facilities and maintenance staff are continually working with principals to evaluate campuses for security improvements, including fencing, parking lot gates and access points.

To address the overall security of schools, School Safety Plans for every campus are developed annually.



Sgt. James Underwood, a school resource officer at Sunnyside High School, chats with senior Jonathan Salazar, left, and senior Rodney Nuon.



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Fun FACTS




- ▶ The district has 1,112,920 books (including e-books) in its libraries and classroom libraries
- ▶ Every graduating senior at Design Science Middle College High School has been accepted to a four-year university
- ▶ The 26 Steve's Scholars scholarship recipients this year amassed 2,766 hours of community service over the past six years



MICHELLE CHAVEZ
Continued from page 6

demonstrate adding on a number line, because I had half a class that did not understand. I cut up food and let them eat their fractions!

What is the Buddy Bench?

I started the Buddy Bench idea my first year at Homan when I observed during yard duty, students walking around alone. I introduced myself to two of those kids, and then introduced them to each other, and they became instant friends. That is how the idea of the Buddy Bench first came to me. My students are given three directions. First, if they feel like they cannot make friends, go sit on the Buddy Bench. Second, if you and a friend are walking around, check the Buddy Bench. See if that person wants to come hang out and play. Finally, if someone befriends you, pay it forward. Keep checking that Buddy Bench to make sure everyone has at least one friend. If I can help anyone gain some confidence, and make a friend or two, that is a huge win in my book.

Name one thing most people do not know about you.

I struggled academically in high school. For me, school was fun. I had a ton of friends and activities I participated in. However, I never applied myself academically. I lacked the confidence in my abilities. It wasn't until I began my credential program that I realized I wanted more for myself and pushed myself harder than ever before.

What is your dream vacation?

I have been lucky enough to travel my whole life. I have driven or flown to many wonderful and amazing places. The glaring omission to my travels is going on a cruise. I want to cruise the Caribbean, Alaska, and the Mediterranean.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I love to spend quality time with my family, go to the movies, read, play golf, travel, and plan visits to Disneyland or Universal Studios.

If the Shoe Fits, Wear it



More than 500 Jefferson Elementary School students received new athletic shoes on April 12 through the non-profit Shoes that Fit program, thanks to a donation from Fresno natives Lou and Dena McMurray. Every student from transitional kindergarten through sixth grade was sized for new shoes to ensure a proper fit.

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DISTRICT ROUNDUP

Forkner, Manchester GATE Selected as Distinguished Schools

Forkner and Manchester GATE elementary schools have been named 2018 California Distinguished Schools by the California Department of Education. Distinguished Schools are honored for making exceptional gains in implementing the academic content and performance standards adopted by the State Board of Education for all students.



of Superintendents for Linked Learning Alliance in California. Linked Learning is a college and career pathway movement that engages state and local business and industry, higher education, and other community members to improve the high school education experience for traditionally underserved students. Nelson was among 15 superintendents named to the panel. The group will work to advance Linked Learning for K-12 students.



Superintendent Nelson Named to Linked Learning Panel

Fresno Unified Superintendent Bob Nelson has been named to the Council

Edison Region Students Exhibit Work at ArtHop

The art work of students of all ages from across the Edison High School region was featured at the April 5 ArtHop at the M Street Arts Complex

downtown. The exhibit was part of Relevant Engagement in Art and Literacy (REAL), a districtwide arts initiative. The focus of REAL this semester was on the exploration of the environment through the eyes of students that includes the discovery of relationships between people and their environment, homelessness, foster care and what's most important to their lives. Their art has helped students across the

district empathize and learn to become more compassionate citizens.



Three District Employees are Finalists in County Contest

All three of the educators from Fresno Unified who were nominated for Fresno County's Educator of the Year awards have been selected as finalists.

Fresno Unified's finalists are Del Mar Elementary School home-school liaison Myra Ramirez in the classified category; Gaston Middle School P.E. teacher Minith "Adam" Real in the teacher category; and Anthony Elementary School

principal Joy Nunes in the administrator category.

Each are among three finalists from throughout the county in each category. Winners will be announced at an awards event at the Saroyan Theatre on Nov. 15. A panel of judges determines the winners from written information and references provided by the candidates as well as interviews and visits to the finalists' school sites.



Myra Ramirez
Del Mar Elementary School



Minith "Adam" Real
Gaston Middle School



Joy Nunes
Anthony Elementary School

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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.



Elementary Readers in Fresno High Region Battle over Books

More than 100 elementary students tested their knowledge of 11 books during the first ever Battle of the Books in the Fresno High School region earlier this spring.

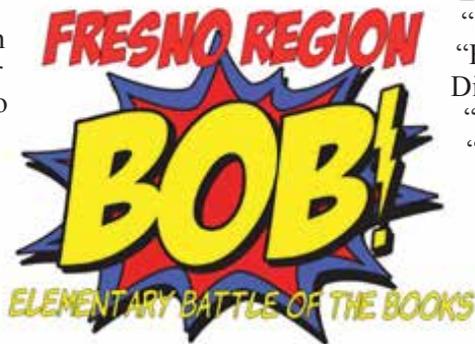
As part of a push this school year for campus libraries to create a culture of reading, Fresno High teacher librarian Sue Navarro worked with library technicians in the Fresno High region to create after-school book clubs. Club members read 11 pre-selected books throughout the year to prepare for the Battle of the Books.

Questions were read aloud by a moderator and teams had 30 seconds to confer before the captain gave the answer. Additional points were given if a team could also provide the name of the author. Battle of the Books was for grades 4 through 6.

The winning team at the March 9 competition was from Williams Elementary School, followed by a second place tie between Del Mar 1 (Del Mar and other schools had multiple teams) and Heaton 3, with Heaton 1 placing third. All students received medallions, a team T-shirt, and breakfast and lunch, and books were raffled off all morning.

“We had a fabulous time competing, eating, meeting other students and celebrating,” Navarro said.

“Creating a culture of reading on our campuses is all about giving students and staff the opportunity to read for pleasure and personal enjoyment. It’s about reading for fun and comradery. It’s about sharing and exploring new ideas through pictures and words.”



For the competition, students read “Freedom in Congo Square,” “Crenshaw,” “All the Way to Havana,” “Radiant Child,” “Mr. Lemoncello’s Library,” “Wishtree,” “Sylvia & Aki,” “Brothers at Bat,” “Dia’s Story Cloth,” “Haddix,” and “Separate is Never Equal.”

Navarro selected the fiction and non-fiction books based on reading level, interest, diversity, equity and inclusion and alignment with the themes of the district’s literacy program, Wonders.

Fresno High’s reading club, The Secret Society of Readers, competed April 9 in the high school version of Battle of the Books at Fresno Pacific University. The school is also participating in The Big Read, reading “The Latehomecomer, a Hmong Family Memoir.”

Fresno High launched The Big Read in March with a book giveaway, along with Hmong dancers and Hmong dessert in the library. The school celebrated finishing the book on April 25 with a lunch of Hmong food and a guest speaker, Fresno High guidance counselor Boun Xiong, who shared his journey story.

Creating a culture of reading at Fresno High also included an April 4-16 exhibition, “Freedom Riders,” which gave students the opportunity to view and read primary source documents about civil rights. The school also participated in Dia de Los Ninos y Los Libros, a celebration of books and children with free book giveaways to families for their home libraries on April 26.



The Williams Elementary School team of, from left, Nicholas Bailey, Emmanuel Powell-Thomas and Mia Rodriguez won the Battle of the Books on March 9.

Battle of the Books Teams

- Del Mar Elementary School; library tech Nancy Masiello
- Fremont Elementary School; library tech Anna Callahan
- Heaton Elementary School; library tech Vickie George
- Homan Elementary School; library tech Hilda Garabedian
- Muir Elementary School; library tech Aracely Nunez
- Roeding Elementary School; library tech Yesenia Rocca
- Williams Elementary School; teacher Marie McGinnis
- Wilson Elementary School; library tech Martha Avalos

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PREPARING CAREER READY GRADUATES

Page 11



SPECIAL EDUCATION

District Upgrades, Expands Special Education Facilities

The district is renovating several of its facilities that serve students in special education.

Upgrades are underway at the Adult Transition Program (ATP) facility to support students' independent living, community and mobility skills, vocational skills, self-advocacy, and functional academics.

The program serves 133 district students ages 18 to 22 with developmental disabilities. The program focuses on training, support and an educational program with the goal to help the student become as independent as possible.

Work is expected to be completed this summer at ATP, which is on Fairmont Avenue near First Street and Shaw Avenue.

The district launched a makeover at Rata High School at the end of March, following the board of education's approval on March 21 for a \$5.2 million Measure X project.

Measure X is the \$225 million local school bond measure voters overwhelmingly approved in November 2016.

Rata, on Mesa Avenue near Bullard and Fruit avenues, serves students in grades 9-12 and adults up to age 22 with developmental disabilities, many of whom are medically fragile.

The project includes remodeling the existing building (10 classrooms and



Work is underway to improve the Adult Transition Program (ATP) kitchen, where students learn practical skills to help them become as independent as possible. Work at the district's ATP facility is among several projects underway on special education facilities.

two life skills kitchens) and adding two classrooms; adding two fully equipped nurse stations; providing new conference, laundry and support spaces; extending and widening the outdoor walking track; installing new concrete walks for access to the play courts and exercise apparatus; modifying the bus loading/unloading areas; and improving fencing and gates for access security.

Every classroom will have fully accessible restrooms and all doors will be widened and automated to accommodate wheelchairs and other accessibility equipment.

Classes for the students are being held at McLane High School until construction is complete.

Those two projects followed the renovations at Addicott Elementary School, which serves pre-kindergarten through seventh grade students with severe disabilities, including those who are orthopedically impaired, intellectually disabled, have multiple disabilities, are deaf and have other health impairments.

The school, on Dayton Avenue between Dakota and Shields avenues, reopened in August 2016. The \$2.5 million

project included additional handicap accessible walkways, safety features, and expanded sensory walls and gross motor areas so students can expand their skills. New features enhance curriculum and instruction, including eye gaze technology in classrooms, ELMO electronic overheads, E-Beam software, new short-throw projectors, Wall-talker whiteboards, and sound proofing wall features.

More work is underway at Addicott, including two new portable classroom buildings to address increased student enrollment.

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May 8

Fresno Unified Scholarship Dinner

May 14

Innovation Day

May 24-June 6

Graduations (for schedule go to www.fresnounified.org)

May 28

Holiday

June 7

Last Day of School



Students Salute Cesar Chavez with Performances and Speeches



Jada Simmons, a student at Sunnyside High School, performs at the Saroyan Theatre March 22 as part of the 19th annual Cesar E. Chavez Day of Service and Learning, hosted by the Fresno Unified Adult School. The festivities included drama, folklorico, mariachi and other performances by middle school and high school students. A garlanding ceremony was held at the Cesar E. Chavez Adult Learning Center. Essay winners -- Middle school: First place, Kaylee Gudino of Kings Canyon Middle School (teacher Laura Matthews); second place, Karina Jimenez of Hamilton Middle School (teacher Jamie Potasi); third place, Evonne Martinez of Tioga Middle School (teacher Joseph Bushong). High school: First place, Isabelle Cooper of Design Science Middle High School (teacher Cheryl Catanzrite); second place, Alexis Cruz of Design Science (teacher Gabriel Villasenor); and third place, Teresa Botts of Bullard High School (teacher Rosa Gamez). Adult school: First place, Skylar Nunes (teacher Luz Newell); second place, Shoyeu Yang (teacher Martha Turnipseed); and third place, Akasha Barker (teacher Elisa Musso).

KAREN DYE

Continued from page 6

are so visual and we compete with technology on a daily basis. With the younger students, you have to take time to sit down with a book, look at the pictures, and talk with them about what is going on in the story. For older students, you need to be able to assist them in finding a book that interests them and one that they can be successful in reading. One of the things we do at Viking is my fourth grade library helpers are Reading Buddies to our transitional kindergarten and pre-school classes. The library helpers come in during their lunch recess and read to the younger students.

Tell us about the book giveaway you do every year at Back to School Night.

We started our back to school book giveaway a couple of years ago when

we realized that we had numerous discarded books and resources that would be helpful to our parents and students. Now, throughout the school year, we collect gently used books, discarded books from the library, and resources no longer needed by the school to put out for our parents and students at Back to School Night to encourage family literacy.

What has been the reaction in the Viking community to the library being open for a few hours once a week in summer?

We have had a positive response to the library being open during the summer. Parents appreciate the opportunity to come and spend time with their children at a library within walking distance of their home. It is a great way to keep our students reading through the summer.

What book are you recommending

District Expands Language Programs to More Students

Fresno Unified hosted the sixth annual Dual Language Parent Conference on March 17, where participants learned more about the value of bilingualism and biliteracy.

The keynote speakers were Misty Her, an instructional superintendent for the district, and Lupita Lomeli, director of community empowerment at Univision in Fresno. The conference was held at Yosemite Middle School.

The conference offered a variety of workshops for parents targeting a range of grades. The theme of the conference this year was "Celebrating our Children."

Fresno Unified offers dual language programs in Spanish at Ewing, Leavenworth, Rowell and Sunset

elementary schools; Wawona School; Yosemite Middle School; and McLane High School. Next school year, the district will expand Spanish language programs to include Burroughs, Calwa, Centennial, Lane and Roeding elementary schools and will offer a Hmong language program at Vang Pao Elementary School.

"Our dual language programs continue to expand, providing an opportunity for even more of our students to be bilingual and bicultural," said Superintendent Bob Nelson. "Learning multiple languages makes our students highly marketable as they head toward college and careers, and will expand their opportunities in the global economy."



Parents had the opportunity to learn more about the value of bilingualism and biliteracy during the district's Dual Language Parent Conference on March 17 at Yosemite Middle School. The district will expand Spanish dual immersion programs to five more campuses next year and is adding a Hmong language immersion program at Vang Pao Elementary School.

to students these days?

"Wonder," by R.J. Palacio; "Wishtree," by Katherine Applegate; "I Survived Series," by Lauren Tarshis; "The Most Perfect Snowman," by Chris Britt... just to name a few.

What is your favorite children's book?

I just couldn't narrow it down to one book. I especially like reading children stories that teach respect, kindness and perseverance, with a dash of humor mixed in. As a child, my favorite books were horse stories, especially the "Black Stallion" by Walter Farley and "Black Beauty" by Anne Sewell.

What is the connection between your job and students doing well on academics?

We help our students achieve to their greatest potential by fostering a love of reading, exposing them to different genres of literature, and different platforms of reading materials. We support our teachers by providing resources that complement their curriculum in the classroom.

Name one thing people do not know about you?

I use to play old-time fiddling with my dad.



Elementary Schools Collect Books

Fresno Unified schools partnered with Reading Heart for the Read Cycle Book Drive from April 9-19, collecting hundreds of books.

The books will be donated during a free book extravaganza on June 2 at McLane High School's stadium.

Reading Heart was started by Danay Ferguson, a sixth-grader in the district,

when she was 8. With the help of her father, Dwayne Ferguson, she collects books and donates them to children in hospitals and in areas where children have trouble accessing books.

The district's Purchasing Department employees delivered 1,350 boxes to schools over spring break for the book drive.



Danay Ferguson, a sixth-grader who founded the Reading Heart book donation organization, is at Greenberg Elementary School on April 6 as part of a book-collecting contest to encourage students to donate books.

Fresno Unified Schools Promote Autism Awareness



Schools across Fresno Unified held numerous activities during April to promote autism awareness as part of National Autism Awareness Month. At Forkner Elementary School, Darryl Gordon delivers lollipops to Rhiannon Gilmore, left, and Samantha Montelongo. Other activities included conveying autism facts during morning announcements, autism awareness banners, poster-making, studying well-known figures with autism, autism awareness breakfasts, and "Light it Up Blue" days encouraging everyone to wear blue. Within Fresno Unified, 1,022 students are eligible for services for autism.



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SUPT. MESSAGE
Continued from page 3

Farber, Fresno Unified will celebrate the first graduating class of Steve's Scholars. Launched in 2012, Steve's Scholars honors the Farbers' late son Steven, who was a firm believer in the value of education. The Steve's Scholars program provides scholarships to former Tehipite Middle School students who have met specific eligibility requirements from seventh grade through the 12th grade. Criteria includes maintaining a 95% attendance rate, a cumulative GPA of 3.0, completing all A-G college course requirements and participating in community service activities annually. Twenty-six seniors at several of our Fresno Unified high schools will receive \$1,000 scholarships for each of their first two years at an accredited college. May 1, the Farber family, parents, staff and community members will come together at a special awards dinner to recognize and celebrate these hard working Tehipite Middle School alumni as they prepare to graduate from Fresno Unified and begin the exciting next leg of their educational journey. Fresno Unified is honored and grateful to have partners like the Farbers who have joined us in our efforts to prepare college and career ready graduates.

As we head into the final stretch of this academic year, I am grateful for all of those in my personal and professional life who steadfastly support the work we do on behalf of Fresno Unified's 74,000 students.

Mensaje del Superintendente

Ya estamos en el mes de mayo, con el Día de las Madres a la vuelta de la esquina, tiempo para honrar y agradecer a las mujeres increíbles de nuestras vidas. Como padre de siete hijos, con absoluta certeza sé que no estaría donde me encuentro hoy si no fuera por la guía, amor y sacrificios innumerables de mi madre Eva, mi suegra Charlene y mi bella esposa Tiffany. Su apoyo ha sido fundamental, ayudándome a alcanzar mis sueños especialmente este último. Además de tomar el cargo como superintendente del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno, el año pasado al mismo tiempo, completé mi doctorado de la Escuela Educativa USC Rossier. A fines de este mes caminaré una vez más a través del escenario de graduación de USC con mi esposa, hijos y familiares, extremadamente bendecido de tener el equipo de mi sueño conmigo en lo que será la recta final de mi propia trayectoria educativa de postgrado.

Para nuestras familias del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno, posiblemente también representa la etapa final del ciclo escolar ya que son las últimas cinco semanas de instrucción. En esta etapa del año, los estudiantes y el personal están ocupados con los exámenes estatales de California, proyectos de fin de año, exámenes de Colocación Avanzada (AP) y ceremonias de graduación. Mientras que muchas de las actividades del mes no son nuevas para nosotros, el Distrito Escolar Unificado de

Fresno está entusiasmado de celebrar una combinación de artículos por "primera vez" en las próximas semanas.

Primero, el próximo mes, el distrito celebrará su primer clase de graduación de la Escuela Empresarial Philip J. Patiño. En el otoño del 2015, la primera escuela preparatoria empresarial única abrió sus puertas a casi 200 estudiantes del décimo grado. La escuela lleva el nombre del líder educativo Philip J. Patiño, quien representó un cambio en la instrucción educativa y el aprendizaje estudiantil que tenía a los estudiantes no solamente colaborando con las empresas locales, sino también desarrollando y comercializando sus propios negocios.

La visión de los estudiantes de la preparatoria Patiño se ha mantenido constante: provee un ambiente seguro donde los estudiantes son capacitados para ser razonador crítico, resolver problemas, colaborar y experiencia fracasada. Si, experiencia fracasada. En la preparatoria Patiño, fracasar es parte del aprendizaje exitoso, sabiendo que de los fracasos vienen las oportunidades interminables del éxito.

A fines de este mes, similar a la defensa de mi tesis de doctorado, los estudiantes del doceavo grado (seniors) de la Preparatoria Patiño defenderán su aprendizaje ante un panel de maestros, padres y miembros comunitarios. Cómo parte de su defensa, hablarán a la aplicación de sus disciplinas/principios académicos, creación de sus negocios y experiencias/aplicaciones del mundo real las cuales ya jugaron un papel en el lanzamiento de este grupo de líderes del futuro.

Segundo, gracias a la generosidad de los residentes de Fresno Murray y Francine Farber, el Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno celebrará la primera clase de graduación de Becas Steve. Las becas Steve fueron fundadas en el 2012 y honran la memoria de Steven hijo finado de los Farber, que fue un firme creyente del valor educativo. El programa Becas Steve provee becas a exalumnos de la Escuela Secundaria Tehipite quienes han reunido los requisitos de elegibilidad específica del séptimo al doceavo grado. El criterio incluye mantener un promedio de 95% en asistencia, una calificación (GPA) acumulativa de 3.0, completar todos los requisitos de cursos de la A-G para el colegio/universidad (college) y participar en actividades de servicio comunitario anualmente. Veintiséis estudiantes del grado 12 (seniors) en varias de nuestras escuelas preparatorias del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno recibirán becas de \$1,000 para cada uno de sus primeros dos años en una universidad/colegio acreditada. El 1ro de mayo, la familia Farber, padres, personal y miembros comunitarios se reunirán en una cena de reconocimientos especiales para reconocer y festejar el arduo trabajo de los exalumnos de la Escuela Secundaria Tehipite, mientras se preparan para graduarse del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno e iniciar la siguiente etapa de su trayectoria educativa. El Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno se

siente honrado y plenamente agradecido de tener socios como los Farbers que se han unido a nuestros esfuerzos para preparar a los estudiantes graduados listos para el colegio/universidad y una carrera.

Como nos acercamos a la recta final de este año académico, me siento plenamente agradecido de todas las personas en mi vida personal y profesional quienes firmemente apoyan el trabajo que hacemos en nombre de los 74,000 estudiantes del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno.

Tuam Thawj Saib Kev Kawm Tsab Xov

Tsis ntev xwb peb twb nyob rau lub Tsib Hlis lawm, nrog rau Niam Hnub twb los sai sai no lawm, yog ib lub sij hawm los muab kev hwm thiab ua tsaug rau tej poj niam nyob rau hauv koj lub neej. Tam li kuv yog ib leej txiv ntawm xya leej me nyuam, kuv paub kuv yuav tsis nyob rau qhov no hnub no yog tias tsis yog los ntawm txoj kev coj, kev hlub thiab theej txhoy suav tsis txheeb los ntawm kuv niam, Eva, kuv niam tais, Charlene, thiab kuv pojniam tus zoo nkauj tshaj plaws, Tiffany. Lawv txoj kev txhawb pab yog ib txoj kev pab loj kawg nkaus rau kuv ua tiav kuv zaj npau suav, tshwj xeeb lig lig. Ntxim ntawm tau los ua tus tuam thawj saib kev kawm ntawm Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv lub xyoo dhau los no, kuv tau thooj txhij kawm tiav kuv daim "doctorate" los ntawm USC Rossier School of Education. Tsis ntev ntawm lub hlis no, nrog rau kuv pojniam, cov me nyuam thiab tsev neeg, ib zaug ntxiv kuv yuav tau raov nce mus saum USC lub sam thiab kawm tiav zoo siab tshaj plaws uas muaj kev pab pawg neeg kuv npau suav nrog nraim kuv yuav yog zaum kawg ntawm kuv tus kheej txoj kev kawm txuj ci siab.

Rau peb cov yim tsev neeg hauv Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv, Tej zaum kuj yuav sawv cev zaum kawg ntawm lub xyoo kawm ntawv thaum peb tab tom nkag mus rau tsib lub lim tiam kawg ntawm txoj kev qhia ntaub ntawv. Lub sij hawm no ntawm lub xyoo, cov tub kawm ntawv thiab cov neeg khiav dej num tab tom tab kaum heev rau lub xeev California txoj kev xeem, tej dej num xaus ntawm lub xyoo, tej kev xeem ntaub ntawv, cov kev xeem Tso Chaw Tshaj Lij (AP) thiab tej koob tsheej ua kev kawm tiav. Txawm tias ntau yam dej num ntawm lub hlis tsis yog tshiab tshiab rau peb, los Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv zoo siab hlo los ua kev zoo siab ob peb yam ntawm "thawj" yam hauv cov lim tiam yuav los tom ntej.

Ua ntej tshaj plaws, lub hlis tom ntej, hauv paus tsev kawm ntawv yuav ua koob tsheej nws thawj thawj chav kawm tiav los ntawm tsev Philip J. Patiño School of Entrepreneurship. Nyob rau lub caij nplooj zeeg xyoo 2015, thawj lub tsev kawm ntawv theem siab ntawm nws tau qhib nws lub qhov rooj rau ze li ntawm 200 tug tub kawm ntawv qib kaum. Zoo tib yam nkaus li thaj coj kawm txuj ci tau raug tis npe tom qab, Patiño tau sawv cev ib qho kev hloov txoj kev qhia ntaub ntawv thiab kev kawm uas tej tub kawm ntawv tau tsis yog muab kev

sib koom nrog tej kev lag luab nkaus xwb, tiam sis kuj tseem tsim thiab muab lawv tus kheej tej lag luam.

Lub zeem muag rau Patiño cov tub kawm ntawv tau ua tas mus li: npaj muaj ib qho chaw nyob nyab xeeb uas tej tub kawm ntawv tau kev txhawb muaj kev xav tseem ceeb, daws teeb meem, sib koom tes thiab ua hauj lwm tsis tiav. Muaj tseeb, ua hauj lwm tsis tiav yog ib feem ntawm kev kawm tau, paub txog tias kev ua hauj tsis tiav tsis muaj xaus rau kev kawm tau.

Tom qab lub hlis no, zoo sib thooj los tiv thaiv kuv qhov kev kawm daim ntawv dov tawj, Patiño cov kawm qib kaum ob yuav tiv thaiv lawv txoj kev kawm ua ntej ib pawg xib fwb, tej niam txiv thiab neeg zej zog Tam li ib feem ntawm lawv kev tiv thaiv, lawv yuav hais rau txoj kev siv ntawm lawv tej kev kawm txuj ci, tsim ntawm lawv tej lag luam, thiab lub ntiaj teb txoj kev siv dua los uas muaj feem tseem ceeb hauv kev pib pab pawg neeg ntaus thawj lub neej tom ntej.

Qhov ob, ua tsaug rau Fresno cov neeg zej zog Murray thiab Francine Farber, Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv yuav ua kev lom zem chav kawm tiav thawj thawj zog ntawm Steve's Scholars. Pib hauv lub xyoo 2012, Tub Txawg Steve tau hwm Farbers tus tub Steven, nws yog tus ntseeg ruaj khov rau nuj nqis ntawm kev kawm txuj ci. Tub Txawg Steve qhov kev kawm npaj muaj nyiaj txiag rau cov tub kawm ntawv hauv Tsev Kawm Ntawv Theem Nrab Tehipite dhau los nws muaj raws nraim li kev tsim nyog tseev kom muaj los ntawm cov kawm qib xya txog qib kaum ob. Cov lus teev tseg xam nrog rau tswj ib tug naj npawb mus koom kev kawm 95%, tus qhab nia GPA 3.0, kawm tiav tag nrho cov chav kawm A-G tseev kom muaj thiab muab kev koom tes hauv tej dej num pab lub zej lub zos txhua lub xyoo. Nees nkaum rau tus qib kaum ob ntawm ntau lub tsev kawm ntawv ntawm peb lub Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv yuav tau txais \$1,000 nyiaj pub rau tej twb tug ntawm lawv thawj ob lub xyoo hauv ib lub tsev kawm ntawv college twg. Tsib Hlis tim 1, Farber tsev neeg, tej niam txiv, tej neeg khiav dej num thiab tej neeg zej zog tuaj ua ke hauv ib pluas hmo muab dej siab tshwj xeeb los nco txiaj ntsim thiab ua kev zoo siab rau cov sib zog ua hauj lwm hauv Tsev Kawm Ntawv Theem Nrab Tehipite raws li lawv npaj kawm tiav los ntawm Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv thiab pib taug lawv txoj kev kawm txuj ci tom ntej zoo siab hlo. Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv raug hwm thiab zoo siab tau koom tes xws li Farbers nws tau koom nrog peb hauv peb txoj kev sib zog los npaj cov kawm tiav college thiab npaj txhij ua dej num.

Raws li peb tab tom mus rau qhov kawg ntawm lub xyoo kawm ntawv, kuv zoo siab heev rau txhua tus neeg hauv lub neej kuv tus kheej thiab paub dej num nws tau sawv ntseeg ntsos txhawb pab yam hauj lwm peb ua sawv cev ntawm Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv 74,000 tus tub kawm ntawv.



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