

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

District Celebrates Excellence in Education with Five Awards



Janna Kam, a teacher at Anthony Elementary School, is congratulated by board member Elizabeth Jonasson Rosas as she accepts her finalist plaque during the Excellence in Education awards Feb. 4.

During a lively, inspiring evening Feb. 4, more than 600 guests gathered to celebrate and honor the district's 50 Excellence in Education finalists. Five outstanding educators were announced as the top winners:

- Classified category – Lorena Almaguer, former office manager at Roosevelt High School and now an assistant in School Leadership
- Certificated category, elementary – Kirsten Lee, Eaton Elementary School teacher
- Certificated category, middle school – Esmeralda Ruiz, Sequoia Middle School teacher
- Certificated category, high school – Tamela Ryatt, Sunnyside High School teacher
- Administrator category – Pamela Taylor, Easterby Elementary School principal



For video, go to vimeo.com/fresnounified/excellenceineducation2019

Almaguer, Lee and Taylor will move on to the Fresno County Educator of the Year awards process. County winners will be announced in November.

Finalists were nominated by their peers for their work above and beyond for students and the district. The finalists demonstrated dedication and caring in their work and a commitment to seek innovative ways to help Fresno Unified students succeed at school and in life. The top educators are lifelong learners themselves, collaborative colleagues and problem solvers.

See Pages 4 and 5 For Bios of Winners

District Awarded \$1 million Grant for Early Learning Work

The California Department of Education has recognized Fresno Unified School District's outstanding program for early learners with a \$1 million grant. This grant pays tribute to the innovative work of Fresno's early childhood community in supporting children birth to 5 whose home language is other than English.

Fresno's funding is part of a \$5 million allocation that early learning organization Early Edge California worked with state legislators and other advocacy partners to include in the 2018 state budget. The goal is to improve the capacity of early learning teachers to support the language development of children age 5 and under who speak a language other than

English in the home.

Along with Fresno Unified, the state awarded grants to California State University, Channel Islands, Sobrato Early Academic Language, Guided Language Acquisition Design and the California Preschool Instructional Network.

The district and its Fresno community partners will use the grant to replicate and expand a locally developed model, the Fresno Language Project, in other parts of the state.

Funds from the David and Lucile Packard

See [EARLY LEARNING GRANT](#)
Continued on page 9



Jaden Huerta, left, and Ayden Stone work with letters using a light table at Fresno Unified's Early Learning Center. The district's exemplary work educating students in two languages has resulted in a state grant to replicate the program elsewhere.

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PARENTS

Applications for After School Programs at 29 Sites Available Soon

Fresno Unified operates daily comprehensive after school programs at 29 elementary schools across the district.

Applications for the 2019-20 school year are available starting March 27. Applications are available at the 29 elementary sites (specified below). The application deadline is April 26.

All students from each of the 29 school sites, from kindergarten through sixth grade, are eligible to apply. Programs operate school days only from the end of the school day until 6 p.m. Capacity is limited and enrollment is determined through a lottery system.

Students not selected are placed on a waiting list.

Parents of students who are accepted into the program will be notified via letter from school or by phone in May. Parents of students accepted will be required to attend a mandatory orientation. Students selected for the waiting list will be notified at a later date when space becomes available. For additional questions or information, contact school sites or the Fresno Unified Extended Learning Office at (559) 248-7560.

These programs are funded by the state's After School Education & Safety Program (ASES) grants. They are an extension of the regular school day, offering literacy and academic enrichment aligned with the regular school day core programs.

Students receive academic and literacy support through assistance with



Applications will be available for the district's after school enrichment program starting March 27 and due April 26.

homework in language arts and mathematics. An enrichment component includes a variety of activities to engage students in new opportunities, such as community service learning, recreation and physical activities, science and technology, career awareness and other activities based on student interests.

The district's Nutrition Center provides two healthy snacks each day for students participating in the after school program.

Las solicitudes para los Programas Después de Clases estarán disponibles muy pronto

El Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno opera programas comprensivos después de clases a diario, en 29 escuelas primarias alrededor del distrito.

Las solicitudes para el ciclo escolar 2019-20 estarán disponibles a partir del 27 de marzo y estarán disponibles en las 29 escuelas primarias (se especifica en la parte inferior). La fecha límite para la solicitud es el 26 de abril.

Todos los estudiantes desde kindergarten hasta sexto año en cada una de las 29 escuelas son elegibles para aplicar al programa. Los programas operan

solamente los días de escuela/clases desde que terminan las clases hasta las 6 p.m. La capacidad es limitada y la inscripción es determinada a través de un sistema de sorteo.

Los estudiantes no seleccionados son colocados en la lista de espera.

Los padres de estudiantes que son aceptados en el programa serán notificados por medio de una carta de la escuela o por teléfono en mayo del 2019. Los padres de estudiantes que son aceptados se les requerirá asistir a una junta obligatoria. Los estudiantes seleccionados para la lista de espera se les notificará después de que haya un lugar disponible. Para información o preguntas adicionales, comuníquese con la escuela o a la Oficina de Aprendizaje Extendido del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno al (559) 248-7560.

Estos programas son auspiciados por una concesión estatal para el Programa Educativo Después de Clases y Seguridad (ASES). Son extensión de un día regular de clases, ofreciendo lectoescritura y enriquecimiento académico alineado con los programas fundamentales del día regular de clases.

Los estudiantes reciben apoyo académico y lectoescritura asistiéndolos con la tarea en artes de lenguaje y matemáticas. Un componente de enriquecimiento que incluye una variedad de actividades para que los estudiantes participen en nuevas oportunidades, como aprendizaje de servicio comunitario, actividades recreativas y físicas, ciencias y tecnología, conocimiento de carrera y otras actividades basadas en los intereses del estudiante.

El Centro Nutritivo del Distrito provee dos bocadillos nutritivos todos los días para los estudiantes que participan en el programa después de clases.

Cov Ntawv Thov rau Kev Kawm Tom Qab Lawb Ntawv Yuav Muaj Sai Sai

Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv tej kev khiav dej num txhij txhua hauv kev kawm ntawv tom qab lawb ntawv txhua hnuv hauv 29 lub tsev kawm ntawv them qis thooob plaws hauv paus tsev kawm ntawv.

Cov ntawv thov rau xyoo kawm ntawv 2019-20 twb pib muaj txij lub Peb Hlis tim 27. Cov ntawv thov muaj nyob rau hauv 29 lub tsev kawm ntawv them qis (teev tseg hauv qab no). Hnuv kaw ntawv thov yog lub Plaub Hlis tim 26.

Txhua tus tub kawm ntawv los ntawm tej lub lub ntawm 29 lub tsev kawm ntawv, txij kindergarten txog qib rau, muaj kev tsim nyog los thov. Cov kev kawm khiav dej num rau cov hnuv kawm ntawv nkaus xwb txij thaum lawb ntawv ntawm hnuv ntawm txog thaum 6 p.m. Chaw muaj tsawg thiab kev cuv npe raug txiav txim los ntawm ib qho kev ua nrho hmoov.

Cov tub kawm ntawv tsis raug xaiv yuav raug muab tso rau daim ntawv teev npe nyob tos.

Cov niam txiv ntawm cov tub kawm ntawv nws raug txais rau hauv qhov kev kawm yuav raug ceeb toom los ntawm xa ib tsab ntawv los ntawm tsev kawm ntawv los yog hu xov tooj thaum lub Tsib Hlis 2019. Cov niam txiv

See AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM Continued on page 7

After School Program Sites		
Applications are available at:		
Anthony	Homan	Roeding
Bakman	Jefferson	Thomas
Columbia	Kirk	Vang Pao
Del Mar	Kratt	Viking
Easterby	Lawless	Vinland
Ericson	Leavenworth	Webster
Ewing	McCardle	Yokomi
Fremont	Norseman	
Greenberg	Powers-Ginsburg	
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Building Futures is a monthly publication of Fresno Unified School District prepared by the Communications Office. To place an ad, contact (559) 457-3733 or email Communications@FresnoUnified.org.

SUPERINTENDENT'S Message

Excellence in Education Celebrates the Fresno Unified Family

Last month, Fresno Unified hosted one of my favorite events – our annual Excellence in Education awards banquet. For a few hours, family, friends and fellow colleagues came together under one roof to celebrate some of the wonderful work being done by the adults in our system: our Fresno Unified employees.



Robert G. Nelson, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Those honored represent all facets of our district – teachers, principals, custodians, safety assistants, psychologists, office staff and so many others. While their roles and responsibilities vary, each are focused on the same goal – having a positive influence on the youth of our district. Behind the scenes, our employees do amazing things for students that aren't part of any job description and

so often go unrecognized. They do these things because they truly care for our students, as if they were their own. One teacher, after a student's mother committed suicide, helped her to finish school by paying for graduation expenses, connecting her with counseling and consistently checking on her grades and making sure she had time and space to do her homework.

We have a plant coordinator who, despite his busy day, takes time to support a new student who came from Thailand. He checks in on her every day and does what he can to help her do well in the classroom and in her new country.

We have a safety assistant who nurtures personal relationships with students. His coworkers say that several students on his campus would have been suspended or expelled had he not helped them learn how to handle frustration and conflict.

Being an educator isn't easy, but the role we each play in a student's day can be life changing. It's an awesome

responsibility, one that has the potential of shifting a student's future outcome for the better, on their way to reaching that graduation stage. As the Excellence in Education interview panelists heard first hand, the work being done by this group of finalists is remarkable and we could all benefit from following their lead – because relationships matter. In their own unique way, the work of our 50 finalists is helping positively change the narrative about our district and this city. As superintendent, I couldn't be more proud to work alongside them.

The high point of the night came as student board members Malak Sarama and Eduardo Casarubias delivered the winning envelopes, revealing the 2019 Excellence in Education winners. Congratulations to Lorena Almaguer (Roosevelt High School), Classified Employee of the Year; Kirsten Lee (Eaton Elementary School),

See **SUPT. MESSAGE SPANISH AND HMONG**
Continued on page 15

Message from Daniel Rodriguez, Editorial Segment Host at Telemundo Fresno

Dual Immersion Programs Support Student Success

Federal programs that support bilingual education began 51 years ago, helping to integrate millions of young people into the American society.



Daniel Rodriguez
Host at Telemundo Fresno

It is estimated that in the United States, three quarters of the 57 million Latinos who live here speak Spanish in their homes, and 260,073 people of Hmong descent reside in the United States, up from 186,310 in 2000. And according to official statistics, the pattern of growth will continue for this sector of the population. In

35 years, there will be 125 million Latinos, a turning point when whites will become a minority. Currently in Fresno County, 50.3% of the population is Hispanic and 9.6% Asian, showing the importance of this population and its growth.

Fresno Unified has several dual immersion schools, for Spanish and Hmong, an approach research shows is successful in helping students with a home language other than English. The reality is that hundreds of young people face difficulties every day in school, because of their limited knowledge of English. This diminishes their possibilities for making academic progress and achieving success. With two languages, however, young bilinguals are the link, the connection and the conduit to help integrate families into a life of better communication, of

understanding, of personal and group progress – to build a future for their families and their community.

Making schools a place where parents can ask teachers, in their native language, about their children's education, helps on many levels. Dual immersion brings about a better understanding of family values and cultural preferences and is a better approach for educators towards a student who is not fluent, yet, in English.

And there is a big advantage for students whose home language is English. With dual immersion, students who are only English speakers have the opportunity to learn a second language, a huge advantage in this global economy. Bilingualism is increasingly necessary and essential for educational and professional success.

Non-Discrimination Policy: Fresno Unified School District does not harass, intimidate, or discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, ancestry, age, creed, religion, political affiliation, gender, gender identity or expression or genetic information, mental or physical disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital, pregnancy or parental status, military veteran status, or any other basis protected by law or regulation, in its educational program(s) or employment (BP 0410). For the full policy, a list of compliance officers, and Title IX information, go to www.fresnounified.org.



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

2019 Excellence in Education Winners

For More About the Excellence in Education Awards, See Page 1



Lorena Almaguer
Classified Employee
of the Year

Job: Office manager at Roosevelt High School (now an assistant in School Leadership)

Stands out because: Almaguer is the glue that keeps things running smoothly in the Roosevelt High office.

She is constantly juggling at least 10 different responsibilities, while still providing high-quality

*"I love every aspect of my job and being a part of bringing happiness."
– Lorena Almaguer*

service and support to others, both from the community and on campus. When staff members need help, they turn first to Almaguer. With the recent addition of new office managers at other high schools, Almaguer has provided invaluable mentoring and assistance. Almaguer enjoys spending time with her kids, gardening, reading and fixing and buildings things. She is divorced with four sons. Her youngest

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

is graduating from Hoover High School this year. Almaguer has been with the district since 1998. On Feb. 7, she moved to a new position as the assistant to Katie Russell, an instructional superintendent.

From Almaguer: "I love every aspect of my job and being a part of bringing happiness."

From Roosevelt Principal Michael Allen: "She is amazing and vital to the positive flow of the campus."



Kirsten Lee
Elementary Educator
of the Year

Job: Sixth grade teacher at Eaton Elementary School

Stands out because: In addition to her skills in the classroom, Lee has worked to involve students in service projects and fundrais-

ers, including raising \$1,000 in four days for the Poverello House. She saw that many fifth- and sixth-grade girls would benefit from mentors, and started Girl Power. The girls meet once a week to listen to guest speakers, talk about their feelings, connect with adults on campus and brainstorm ideas to serve their community. She also started a leadership group for fifth- and sixth-graders and initiated the Friday Store, where students can use the Eagle Bucks they have earned for behavior to buy snacks and school supplies. Lee enjoys yoga, reading and art, and studied painting in college and traveled to Italy to learn from master artists. She also loves

*"If we can empower [students] to feel like they have something to give, that's such a game-changer."
– Kirsten Lee*

to travel, hike and camp, and be with family and friends. Lee is married with two children, 3 and 2. She began teaching in the district in 2015, and has been at Eaton since then.

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

From Lee: "If we can empower [students] to feel like they have something to give, that's such a game-changer."

From teacher on special assignment Colleen English Wong: "She has made a huge difference in the lives of our fifth- and sixth-grade students. Her connections with students run deep."



Esmeralda Ruiz
Middle School
Educator of the Year

Job: English language arts teacher at Sequoia Middle School

Stands out because: Through Ruiz's dedications, her students blossom academically, socially and emotionally. She goes above

and beyond to mentor students, including after school and on the weekends. Several years ago, she started the Young Women's Alliance on campus. This year, she brought back a Battle of the Books

*"I'm so proud to work where I work. I am Fresno Unified."
– Esmeralda Ruiz*

team. Her students increased an average of two grade levels in their ELA scores on the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium state tests, and led the way as the ELA team had the greatest year-to-year improvement ever at Sequoia. She contributes to the entire campus, often leading staff discussions and pushing her colleagues to think about their work in terms of what would benefit students the most. She is the lead English language arts teacher at Sequoia. She is willing to and adept at supporting new teachers and staff and opens her classroom for observation at all times. She meets with colleagues on her prep time and after school to help plan lessons or brainstorm on classroom strategies. Ruiz enjoys reading and outdoor activities, such as running and hiking. She is married and has three children. She

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

graduated from Roosevelt High School. Ruiz has worked for the district since 2007 and has been at Sequoia for nine years.

From Ruiz: "I'm so proud to work where I work. I am Fresno Unified."

From Sequoia Principal Matt Ward: "Esmeralda has always been one who is willing to be involved in extra things to support students."



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

2019 Excellence in Education Winners

For More About the Excellence in Education Awards, See Page 1



Tamela Ryatt
High School Educator of the Year

Job: Photography teacher at Sunnyside High School

Stands out because: Ryatt is a passionate educator who emboldens her students through photography and design projects, and connects the campus with the larger southeast Fresno community. For example, her students' large mural projects portray positive messages to students, staff and the community. She is relentless in her work ethic, teaching leadership and creative vision. She is a leader in teaching career technical education (CTE) through project-based learning

and linked interdisciplinary teams. Students are learning to use current industry photography equipment and Adobe graphic design programs, while connecting their projects to history and English language arts lessons. Through "Project Vote," students learned about the voting process, researched propositions and objectively presented them through multimedia formats. Her efforts to empower the southeast Fresno community include teaching a night photography course. She serves as the chair of the CTE Pathways on her campus and is the lead teacher for the Multimedia & Marketing Pathway. Through her networking skills, she has secured significant donations, opportunities for students and mentor-

"It's really important as an educator to see every single kid."
– Tamela Ryatt

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

ing support from local businesses. Ryatt worked as a professional photographer before becoming a teacher. Ryatt enjoys growing her own vegetables, cooking and traveling. She has been to Africa, India, western and eastern European countries, and South America. She is single with a beautiful cat named Siddhartha. Ryatt started teaching at the district in 2000 and has been at Sunnyside her entire career. She also teaches for Fresno City College at night, including at the Sunnyside satellite campus.

From Ryatt: "It's really important as an educator to see every single kid."

From Sunnyside Principal Tim Liles: "She is consistently a leader and advocate for all students and teachers."



Pamela Taylor
Administrator of the Year

Job: Principal at Easterby Elementary School

Stands out because: Taylor demonstrates exceptional leadership by building teacher capacity and accountability; providing staff and students with high-quality instructional options and materials; and developing a safe and productive culture that emphasizes diversity, acceptance and support. Staff members are encouraged to be open and honest about concerns. Taylor is an effective problem-solver and calming presence, and is open-minded and professional. She carries out

her work with the understanding that people are the most important commod-

"I enjoy the collaborative environment we've built at our site."
– Pamela Taylor

ity of any organization. Taylor has made technology a priority so all students at every grade level have access to a laptop. Her campus is a model for skillful

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

integration of technology. She has also led efforts to reduce negative student behavior and as a result, suspensions declined. Taylor takes the time to connect with students and knows all students' names and their stories. Taylor enjoys the mountains and anything Disney, traveling and spending time with family. She is married with two stepchildren. She started working at Fresno Unified in 2008 and has been at Easterby since 2012.

From Taylor: "I enjoy the collaborative environment we've built at our site."

From Easterby teacher Rob Kuzminski: "She goes out of her way to make time to learn about her students and staff."



From left, board clerk Carol Mills, board member Elizabeth Jonasson Rosas, Elementary Educator of the Year Kirsten Lee, High School Educator of the Year Tamela Ryatt, board member Keisha Thomas, Middle School Educator of the Year Esmeralda Ruiz, board member Veva Islas, Administrator of the Year Pamela Taylor, board member Valerie Davis, board president Claudia Cazares and Superintendent Bob Nelson at the Excellence in Education awards Feb. 4.

Fresno Unified School District

Important Dates

March 4	Buyback Day – No School for Students
April 15-22	Spring Break
May 27	Memorial Day
June 6	Last Day of School Year



Locker Leaves Legacy of Relationships

The Fresno Unified family lost a beloved administrator Jan. 25 with the passing of assistant superintendent Holland Locker. He was 61. He had battled cancer.

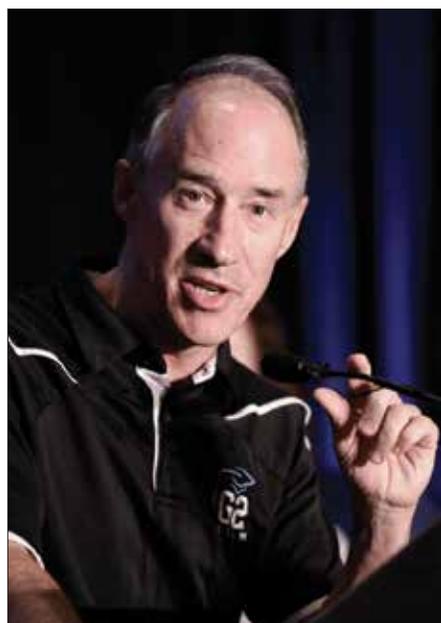
Locker had worked for the district for 36 years, most recently as an assistant superintendent in the Goal 2 Office. The board-adopted Goal 2 says, “All students will engage in arts, activities and athletics.”

Under Locker’s leadership, Goal 2 efforts expanded and flourished, emphasizing at all grade levels the importance of connecting students to the arts and extracurricular activities.

In the days following Locker’s death Superintendent Bob Nelson said he was amazed at the outpouring of condolences and remembrances for Locker.

“It speaks to the impact Holland had throughout our city,” Nelson said.

Nelson said Locker “established his legacy long ago in this district, elevating the importance of personal relationships and the role they play in making a difference in the lives of others.”



Assistant Superintendent Holland Locker, who passed away Jan. 25, elevated Goal 2 programs, encouraging arts, activities and athletics.

Innovation Day Tests Science and Teamwork Skills

Teams of fifth- and sixth-graders from district schools are gearing up for the fifth annual Innovation Day competition.

In this highly anticipated event, student teams of four compete in hands-on science and engineering based challenges. They get to show off their skills and teamwork in front of an audience of family and friends.

This year’s Innovation Day is from 3-7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21 at the Save Mart Center. The best time for family and friends to attend is when testing starts at 5:30 p.m. The awards ceremony is at 6:30 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to help with set up, registration, information stations, judging, and clean up. Each volunteer receives an Innovation Day 2019 T-shirt and dinner. To volunteer, register at <http://bit.ly/volunteerID19>.

Innovation Day is the culmination of students’ involvement in hands-on science instruction provided to all fifth and sixth grade classes throughout the school year. At the event, teams will be provided materials to complete a challenge based on skills

they have learned during the school year.

“This event really highlights student voice, and cultivates unique creativity and decision making that are all necessary when facing the science and engineering challenges that are a part of Innovation Day. I am proud of our partnership with the Lyles Center for Innovation & Entrepreneurship at Fresno State and our collaborative effort to prepare career ready graduates,” said Gianni Danisi, teacher on special assignment.

Organizers will award Regional Spirit Awards to the top teams in both fifth and sixth grade from each region of Fresno Unified. Teams win awards based on exceptional display of the district’s Graduate Profile characteristics: Responsible and Ethical Decision Makers, Creative and Adaptable Learners, Skilled Communicators and Collaborators, Adaptable and Productive Problem Solvers, and Digitally Literate Citizens.

Each member of a team that successfully completes the challenge will receive an award.



Students from Innovation Day in 2018 show off their science and engineering skills. Volunteers are needed for this year’s event, which will be held May 21 at the Save Mart Center.

McLane Retrospective Exhibit Looks at Big Picture



From left, Brianna Covarrubias, Maribel Antu and Serena Clugston work on a life-size painting of a human trafficking victim, one of many relevant art projects McLane High School’s ArtVenture Academy has produced since 2004.

For 15 years, students in McLane High School’s ArtVenture Academy have been using art and writing to explore some of their community’s most relevant issues. They have created art and literary projects around homelessness, the anniversary of the incarceration of Japanese Americans, civil rights, the drought and most recently, human trafficking.

A broad view of what students have explored – and created as a result – has been on display at Fresno Pacific University since early February, and can be seen through March 8.

ArtVenture Academy’s “Voice to the Voiceless: an ArtVenture Retrospective” exhibit includes more than 20 projects dating to 2004. The

See [ArtVenture](#) Continued on page 13



Students Honor MLK and Celebrate Black History Month

Below, Kaleb Jackson-Carter, back, Carlos Guevara, left, and William Fowler perform a tribute to hip hop in Gaston Middle School's fifth annual Black History Month Program, hosted by the Black Student Union on Feb. 1 to launch Black History Month activities. Black Student Union students collaborated with peers from choir, drama, band, the art club, the after-school program, leadership, speech and debate and the Voces Unidas Club, as well as King Elementary School, Edison-Bethune Charter Academy, Computech Middle School and Edison High School to plan cultural events for February. The program included the Black National Anthem, a reenactment of the Freedom Summer Project and a "Lion King" tribute to African Americans on Broadway.

At right, students at Wawona School gather on Martin Luther King Jr. Day Jan. 21 for a "day on, not a day off" in honor of the civil rights leader. Students, staff and families tied fleece blankets and presented them to the Sheriff's Department, participated in campus beautification, wrote cards for veterans and created an MLK mural. A reading corner was available with books on Dr. King and other civil rights leaders. Wawona's Where Everyone Belongs (WEB) student leaders, staff and parents organized the projects.

At bottom right, King Elementary School students, from front, E'niyah Fuller, Kayven Burton and Maritsa Molina Camacho participate in a garlanding ceremony Jan. 18 at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. bust at Courthouse Park.



AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS Continued from page 2

ntawm cov tub kawm ntawv raug txais yuav raug tseev kom mus koom ib lub rooj sib tham muab lus qhia. Cov tub kawm ntawv raug xaiv rau teev npe daim ntawv nyob tos yuav raug ceeb toom los ntawm ib tsab ntawv tsis ntev tom qab hnuv ntawm thaum muaj ib qho chaw twg seem. Rau lus qhia ntau ntxiv los yog lus qhia, hu rau tsev kawm ntawv los yog Fresno Unified Extended Learning Office ntawm (559) 248-7560.

Cov kev kawm nov raug them los ntawm lub xeev qhov Kev Kawm Txuj Ci Tom Qab Lawb Ntawv thiab Kev Kawm Nyob Nyab Xeeb (ASES) cov nyiaj. Nws yog ib qho kev txuas ntawm kev kawm raws li ib txwm txhua hnuv, qhib muaj kev nyeem ntawv sau ntawv thiab txhawg kev kawm txuj ci dhos haum nrog kev kawm txhua hnuv cov

kev kawm tseem ceeb.

Cov tub kawm ntawv txais kev txhawb pab kawm txuj ci thiab nyeem ntawv thiab sau ntawv los ntawm kev pab ua hoob vawj ua lus thiab lej. Ib feem kev txhawb uas muaj ntau ntau yam dej num ua los txuam tej tub kawm ntawv rau ib co kev qhia tshiab, xws li kawm txog kev pab zej zog, kev ua si thiab tej dej num siv lub cev, kev tshawb fawb thiab txuj ci siab, tej kev ras txog kev ua hauj lwm thiab lwm yam dej num ua raws li tej tub kawm ntawv muaj kev ntxim siab.

Hauv paus tsev kawm ntawv lub Chaw Kev Ua Noj Haus npaj muaj ob plus noj txom ncauj rau tej hnuv hnuv rau cov tub kawm ntawv muab kev koom tes hauv qhov kev kawm tom qab lawb ntawv.



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Measure X Projects Moving Forward, Improving Facilities Districtwide

Projects across the district are completed or taking shape as the district uses funds from Measure X to continue a legacy of building high quality facilities and targeting key areas for modernization to support student instruction.

Fresno Unified voters passed Measure X, a \$225 million bond measure, in November 2016. The district has spent or committed \$50 million to projects with a variety of planned projects ahead.

One of the most anticipated Measure X and Measure Q projects is the expansion of career technical education facilities at Duncan Polytechnical High School. The district will welcome the community, students and staff to a grand opening March 21.

This project modernizes the current CTE facilities while establishing the first high school large truck maintenance and repair training facility of its kind in the country. Students will be able to train on equipment that prepares them for jobs in the valley's growing transport industry.

Students will benefit from new classroom space, a maintenance pit for hands-on training, indoor garage workspace and covered exterior space for truck emissions testing.

The new building also includes a construction trades education facility, with a large outdoor workspace. Construction also expands the campus' current welding and manufacturing shop classrooms, providing a presentation space, and upgrades the auto

maintenance repair space.

Measure X also means updated baseball and softball fields for Roosevelt High School, including bleachers, dugouts, scoreboards, and irrigation. Work is complete and the fields are in use. The team played its first home game on the new field in February.

Similar work is underway on the baseball and softball fields at McLane High School.

Also at McLane, students held a ribbon-cutting Jan. 8 to celebrate their new quad area, another Measure X project. The quad area renovation features an enhanced campus gathering place with improved walkways, new benches, new low-water trees and landscaping. The project also improves safety through enhanced supervision sightlines.

Student body president Mayra Carrillo spoke at the ribbon-cutting, saying the new quad was, "a place [students] can come together. They can have a place to feel safe and welcome and it's a place to come when they want to eat their lunch, be with friends and just sit and talk."

Superintendent Bob Nelson said the quad was "one of the many projects across our district that would not have been possible without our community's support for Measure X."

Other Measure X projects include:

- Cafeteria air conditioning – Projects are complete at Computech, Fort Miller and Yosemite middle



Roosevelt High School's new baseball field is among several athletic projects across the district made possible by Measure X, a local bond measure the community passed in November 2016.

schools and Fremont and Pyle elementary schools; projects for Cooper Academy and Roeding, Viking and Vinland elementary schools are in design and targeted to start construction this spring, pending board approval; projects for Baird K-8 School and Dailey Charter, Ericson, Gibson, Holland, Manchester GATE and Powers-Ginsburg elementary schools are planned for later this year; projects for Centennial and Wishon elementary schools and Scandinavian Middle School are planned for 2020; cafeteria air conditioning for Del Mar and Jackson elementary schools and Roosevelt High School are included in the design of modernization projects.

- Elementary school security cameras – Installation of high definition security camera systems is underway, to be completed in eight

phases: three phases have been awarded to date; the fourth phase was approved on Feb. 13; and all phases are targeted to be completed prior to the start of the new school year in August.

- McLane stadium improvements – Synthetic turf and scoreboard replacement will be completed prior to the 2019 football season.
- Planning and design continue for classrooms and other improvements at Addams and Del Mar elementary schools, Roosevelt and the planned new Herrera Elementary School.
- Significant CTE projects are planned and have been approved, or are under review by state agencies, for grant funding at Edison, Fresno, Hoover, McLane and Sunnyside high schools; planning for CTE facilities at Roosevelt is underway.



From left, vice principal Ramiro Teran, students Valeria Arellano and Karen Garcia and teacher Tarah Gregg gather Jan. 8 for a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the new quad area at McLane High School. The quad is a Measure X project.



A grand opening for Duncan Polytechnical High School's new large truck repair facility will be held March 21. The facility, which can fit eight semi-trucks, will prepare students for jobs in the automotive repair and transportation industries.



EARLY LEARNING GRANT
Continued from page 1

Foundation established the Fresno Language Project in 2015. The goal was to ensure all children have a strong foundation in both English and their home language by the time they enroll in kindergarten.

The district has hosted more than 15 learning sessions for early childhood educators in the Fresno community, including licensed family childcare homes and early learning centers, to share best strategies for helping young learners with language development. The work is critical, as research has shown that language development in the early years often determines a child's future success in school.

The results from an outside evaluator indicate that educators participating in the Fresno Language Project significantly increased their skills and competence in meeting the needs of young dual language learners. Work is also underway with the Fresno Unified Office of Equity and Access to continue following the progress of the

participating children as they move through the district's K-12 system.

With this grant, Fresno Unified will be able to help replicate the Language Project in Kern and Tulare counties. They will also be able to scale the strategies from the project to a far wider audience through the development of guides and resources, and through state-wide trainer-of-trainer institutes also funded by the grant.

"This grant honors the work we have been doing for our young dual language learners and it gives us the opportunity to scale the work here and in other communities," said Deanna Mathies, executive director of the district's Early Learning Department.

"We are proud of what we have accomplished in this collaborative effort with our community partners, Fresno County Superintendent of Schools, Central Valley Children's Service Network and Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission, and we look forward to working with other early childhood educators throughout the state."



From left, Evangelina Urena, Jazlene Lopez and Sophie Diaz go to school at the district's Early Learning Center, where teachers teach in both English and Spanish as part of a dual language immersion program.

Middle School Athletes Take a Swing at Chukchansi Park



Sequoia Middle School catcher Johnny Robles and Scandinavian Middle School's Michael McCullough battle at the Middle School Varsity Baseball Exhibition at Chukchansi Park in downtown Fresno on Jan. 26. Teams played five-inning games (or 90 minutes), getting to experience a major-league stadium. Participants included 142 players and coaches from the district.

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Specialty High Schools now Offer Competitive Sports Options

The district's specialty high schools may not offer the full array of athletics, but students can now test their prowess against each other in dodgeball, wall climbing and other sports.

The district is in its second year of offering intermural sports. Students competed in indoor soccer, basketball and dodgeball during the first half of the school year, and are currently involved in indoor climbing and volleyball in the Specialty Schools Recreation League.

Participation varies, but for most sports, Design Science Middle College High School, Duncan Polytechnical High School and Patiño School of Entrepreneurship participate, as well as University High School, a charter school not part of the district. Sports like indoor climbing have also attracted McLane and Edison high schools, regular campuses.

Specialty high schools are smaller high schools that offer a particular focus, such as career technical education, concurrent enrollment in Fresno City College or entrepreneurship courses. Unlike the district's seven comprehensive high schools, the specialty schools aren't large enough to field athletic teams.

But despite their small size, the specialty high schools are big on school spirit.

Students wanted a way to be involved in sports at their schools, said Duncan Principal Jeremy Ward.

He said a group of teachers and leaders from the Specialty Region "felt like our students were missing out on the opportunity to participate in athletics and missing out on the opportunity to represent their schools."

They began exploring an intermural sports league between schools. Offerings include a couple of non-traditional school sports – dodgeball and indoor climbing. For the climbing, students compete for best times at the climbing wall courses at the MetalMark indoor climbing and fitness gym.

"I'm so grateful for the climbing league. I'd probably never do something like this if they didn't create it. When you're up climbing on that wall, it's as if nothing can hold you down. Rock climbing is a mix of excitement, fun and exercise. The thing about climbing is that you never know your limit until you've tested it," said Duncan student Iriberto (Joshua) Penaloza.

The benefits for specialty school athletes are the same as regular student-athletes, Ward said.

"The learning of a skill, the gaining of self-confidence, making new friendships, being able to represent their school as a part of a team – these are all great outcomes of participation in the Specialty Rec League," Ward said.

"It's been rewarding to see students being able to participate at our schools in ways that they have not before. It is remarkable how much little things like having these types of opportunities add positively to the school culture and climate."



Duncan Polytechnical High School and Design Science Middle College High School battle in volleyball on Feb. 5 as part of intermurals for the specialty high schools.



Joshua Penaloza, a member of Duncan Polytechnical High School's rock climbing intermural team, practices at MetalMark Climbing and Fitness Gym on Jan. 30.



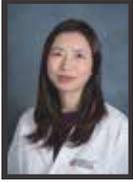
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STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Roosevelt Senior Accepted to Stanford, Dedicates Efforts to Father



Roosevelt High School senior Emily Salazar has been accepted to Stanford University.

Roosevelt High School's Emily Salazar has been accepted to Stanford University, one of the most prestigious universities in the nation with an acceptance rate of just 5%.

The 18-year-old has overcome the death of her father, Andres Reyes Salazar, two years ago and exceeded the hopes of her mother, Maria Magdalena Salazar, who did not attend school beyond the third grade.

Emily never truly believed she would get in to Stanford, and had decided that even if Stanford was not interested, she would excel somewhere. But the letter did arrive.

"It was shocking, I just remember feeling very light-headed, dizzy, and I was shaking. I got it and called my mom, and we both started crying," Emily said.

Along with her 4.0 GPA, Emily takes classes at Fresno City College, where she is the president of the American Sign Language Club. She is president of the Mariachi Club at Roosevelt and in her spare time, she teaches S.A.T. classes to students who cannot afford them.

Emily believes her efforts beyond the classroom helped her get accepted to Stanford. She dedicates the accomplishment to her father, who always pushed her and believed in her. Andres Salazar, who died of cancer, had earned an associate degree.

Emily believes seeking help and establishing a support network are keys to success in all aspects of life, not just college.

"Take advantage of the resources available to you at home, at school, in the community," Emily said.

She learned that a support network

can change your life. She is especially grateful to Elaine Colett, her mother's boss, who she refers to as her "bonus mom." Colett helped her with college essays, applications, forms and presentations.

Although her mom didn't go to college, she has talked with Emily about pursuing higher education all her life.

"It was never about whether I was going to college or not, it has always been more about what college," Emily said.

There may be more good news and options to come. She is also waiting to hear from Ivy League colleges Harvard and Yale. She plans to pursue a law degree with undergraduate degrees in psychology and political science. She sees a future as a politician.

Rata High School Celebrates Renovations with Festive Open House

Rata High School, which serves students with developmental disabilities, held an open house Feb. 8 to celebrate a \$5.2 million remodel.

The event featured tours, entertainment and food trucks.

Principal Travis Dyer said he was excited "to see where the future is taking us."

Rata students returned to campus Jan. 7 after the winter break to a renovated campus that is easier for students to navigate and offers improved facilities. The campus, on Mesa Avenue near Bullard and Fruit avenues, serves students in grades 9-12 and adults up to age 22. Many Rata students are medically fragile and require special equipment.

The project included adding two classrooms to the existing eight classrooms; adding a

life skills room and a life skills kitchen; adding two fully equipped nurse stations; providing a new conference

room, 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.

Eight of the 10 classrooms now have a fully accessible restroom with the other two bathrooms across from the classrooms, and all doors were widened and an automated entrance to the building was added to accommodate wheelchairs and other accessibility equipment.

Rata renovations were possible thanks to Measure X, the \$225 million local school bond measure voters overwhelmingly approved in November 2016.

"Without the continued support of the community and parents, we would not be here today," Dyer said.



Rata High School held a ribbon-cutting ceremony as part of an open house Feb. 8 to celebrate its renovated campus. The school serves students in grades 9-12 and adults up to 22 years old who have developmental disabilities.



DISTRICT ROUNDUP



McLane Students Install Pop-Ups of Human Trafficking Victims

McLane High School ArtVenture students, under the direction of teacher Marc Patterson, installed life size pop-up cutouts of human trafficking victims at four downtown locations on Feb. 2. The purpose of the project, “After Dark: Breaking the Chains of Human Trafficking,” was to build awareness of the human trafficking crisis. Visitors could scan the QR code and read the story of that specific individual. The pop-ups were up through February near Bitwise Industries, Tioga Sequoia Brewery, the Fresno County Office of Education and Fulton Avenue near Broadway.

ArtVenture Academy is part of a yearlong Fresno Unified art and creative writing initiative that this year focused on human trafficking. The initiative, Relevant Engagement with Art and Literacy (R.E.A.L.), provides rich curriculum and visual art opportunities and engagements for students from transitional kindergarten to high school in all seven regions of Fresno Unified. Teachers explore age-appropriate themes through art and literature aligned with the overarching theme.



Fresno High Dedicates Field for Coach Papi

Fresno High School dedicated its baseball field to honor longtime teacher, coach and athletic director Ken

Papi on Feb. 9. Papi, a Fresno Unified graduate, went on to play baseball at Fresno City College and Fresno State University, where he earned his MBA and his teaching credential in business education. He began teaching and coaching at Fresno High during the 1969-1970 school year, and remained at FHS his entire career until his retirement in 2011. In addition to coaching baseball, Papi was also athletic director at Fresno High for 25 years.

Students Shadow Employees to Learn about Jobs

Fresno Unified’s Career Readiness Department hosted a series of Job Shadow Days in February, the third annual event. Each week, students in career pathways and career technical education (CTE) programs visited a different industry sector and experienced the real world of work. Students spent three hours alongside employees to experience their day-to-day work environment and discuss requirements

and opportunities within the industry sector. Students visited sites in the job sectors of education, child development and public service; agriculture and natural resources; industrial, manufacturing and technology; and health and human services. More than 200 students shadowed employees at 30 locations as the district continues to expand its CTE opportunities for all students.

ACSA Golf Fundraiser coming in April

Mark the calendar for Saturday, April 27. The Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) will hold its annual golf tournament on April 27 at the Riverside Golf Course to raise money for Fresno Unified scholarships. Last year, the tournament raised more than \$4,000, with a goal this year of \$6,000. The tournament will feature a taco truck and raffle prizes. The deadline to register is March 31. For more information, call (559) 304-6053.

Summer School Offers Academic and Enrichment Classes, Begins June 11

Keeping students on track for graduation, while preparing them for post-secondary education and workplace success, drives the work behind the Fresno Unified Summer School Program.

Last summer, more than 14,000 students participated in learning opportunities outside of the traditional school calendar that allowed them to recover credits for graduation, participate in summer enrichment or continue to develop academic skills gained during the regular school year.

The summer reading program focuses on fundamental reading skills, helping kindergarten through second grade students stay on track to read at grade level. The elementary mathematics program will provide fourth and fifth grade students with opportunities to maintain their math skills over the summer break.

Additionally, there are opportunities in literacy and language development for English learners, accelerated learning

toward GATE identification and enrichment programs that focus on hands on science activities. Classes are available for students entering middle school, as well as enrichment courses through

the Center for Advanced Research and Technology (CART). Special education programs are available at all grade levels.

The high school summer program offers credit recovery opportunities in all core areas and courses needed for graduation. Students who wish to open space in their schedules for advanced placement (AP) courses later in their high school career may wish to take advantage of a variety of acceleration options. Counselors will work with students to schedule summer coursework.

Qualified teachers who are committed to providing high-quality academic instruction teach all courses in a safe and structured environment. Letters regarding elementary intervention program placement will be available from students’ teachers. Parents are encouraged to contact their school site for additional information on summer enrichment opportunities.

Summer programs begin on Tuesday, June 11 and will end on Thursday, July 11. There will be no school on the July 4 holiday.



Students have fun with robotics during summer school enrichment classes in July.



ARTVENTURE

Continued from page 6

exhibit highlights the evolution of McLane’s interdisciplinary ArtVenture projects, which have encouraged students to explore socially relevant issues and engage the community.

The projects demonstrate the district’s commitment to collaborative work – integrating writing, the spoken word, visual and performing art – and the importance of community partners, such as Fresno Pacific University. McLane teacher Marc Patterson oversees ArtVenture.

“From the beginning of the ArtVenture Academy, Mr. Patterson envisioned challenging students to conceptualize important identity and social issues with visual representations or images to express their understanding of these ideas and/or issues,” said Bobbi Mason, professor emerita of education at Fresno Pacific University.

“Rather than start by instructing students on the technical aspects of art-making with a focus on the art elements from a part-to-whole perspective, he

began with a big-picture approach engaging them with a big idea or a provocative social issue from a whole-to-part perspective.”

ArtVenture students have exhibited their art throughout California, including the Fresno Art Museum and Arte Americas. Pieces from the 2015 “Stories of Home,” about Southeast Asian refugees, were exhibited at the White House.

On Feb. 2, students installed life-size pop-up art they created of human trafficking victims. The pieces were up through the month. Visitors to the four downtown locations could scan the QR code and read the story of that specific individual.

“Voice to the Voiceless: an ArtVenture Retrospective”

Where: Fresno Pacific University: McDonald Hall, Sattler Hall 104 Art Gallery, AIMS Hall and Alumni Hall

When: Feb. 7-March 8

Donations help Welding Students Buy Protective Boots



All of the students in the welding pathway at Duncan Polytechnical High School now have the proper protective boots, thanks to help from the Skechers Outlet store and the generosity of Duncan staff and a staff member’s family. In December, with the second semester coming, 14 students in the welding pathway did not have the proper protective shoes to continue in the pathway. Vice Principal Vincent Hoke made arrangements with the manager at the Skechers Outlet to supply the work boots at a discounted price. Duncan staff and supporters then stepped forward to help with the cost, including \$300 from the parents of new welding teacher Jordan Fickett.



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State Center Community College District



Edison High School Back on Top in Academic Decathlon



Edison High School's team took home the overall first place Sweepstakes trophy from the Fresno County Academic Decathlon Feb. 2, beating out University High School for the first time in four years. Team members are, front row from left, Elizabeth Rodriguez and Ana Manjares; second row from left, Madeleine Fischer and Vanessa Lopez; third row from left, Berenice Jimenez, Alex Fischer and Andrew Contreras; and fourth row from left, Alia Lescoulie and Coach Gary Mrkaich. Fresno County Superintendent of Schools Jim Yovino is at far left in the front row. Bullard High School placed third in Division II and Design Science Middle College High School placed first and Duncan Polytechnical High School second in Division III. Design Science was named Most Improved Team.



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Fun FACTS



▶ Retiring Roosevelt High School soccer coach Joel Munoz won 341 games over 25 years (not counting this year).

▶ Players hit six homeruns -- all within the park -- during the Varsity Middle School Baseball Exhibition at Chukchansi Park.

▶ The district served 4,522 meals over the winter break.



SUPT. MESSAGE
Continued from page 3

certificated Elementary Educator of the Year; Esmeralda Ruiz (Sequoia Middle School), certificated Middle School Educator of the Year; Tamela Ryatt (Sunnyside High School), certificated High School Educator of the Year; and Pamela Taylor (Easterby Elementary School), Administrator of the Year. Special congratulations to Lorena, Kirsten and Pam, who are moving on to the Fresno County Educator of the Year awards later this fall.

Thousands of employees in this district are doing incredible work on behalf of our 74,000 students and their efforts are making us a better district. As you will see in this issue of Building Futures, their impact is boundless.

Excelencia en la Educación Celebra a la Familia del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno

El mes pasado, El Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno organizó uno de mis eventos favoritos, nuestro banquete anual de premios a la Excelencia en la Educación. Durante unas horas, familiares, amigos y colegas se reunieron bajo un mismo techo para celebrar el maravilloso trabajo realizado por los adultos en nuestro sistema: nuestros empleados del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno.

Los honrados representan todas las facetas de nuestro distrito: maestros, directores, conserjes, asistentes de seguridad, psicólogos, personal de oficina y muchos otros. Aunque sus funciones y responsabilidades varían, cada una se centra en el mismo objetivo: tener una influencia positiva en los jóvenes de nuestro distrito. Detrás de las escenas, nuestros empleados hacen cosas asombrosas para los estudiantes que no forman parte de ninguna descripción de trabajo y, por lo tanto, a menudo no son reconocidos. Hacen estas cosas porque realmente se preocupan por nuestros estudiantes, como si fueran suyos. Una maestra, después de que la madre de una estudiante se suicidó, la ayudó a terminar la escuela pagando los gastos de graduación, conectándola con consejería y revisando constantemente sus calificaciones y asegurándose de que tuviera tiempo y espacio para hacer su tarea.

Tenemos un coordinador de plantel que, a pesar de su día ocupado, toma tiempo para apoyar a una estudiante

nueva que vino de Tailandia. Él mira todos los días y hace lo que puede para ayudarla a que le vaya bien en el salón de clase y en su nuevo país.

Tenemos un asistente de seguridad que nutre las relaciones personales con los estudiantes. Sus compañeros de trabajo dicen que varios estudiantes en su escuela habrían sido suspendidos o expulsados si él no los hubiera ayudado a aprender cómo manejar la frustración y el conflicto.

Ser educador no es fácil, pero el papel que jugamos en el día de un estudiante puede cambiar la vida. Es una responsabilidad increíble, uno que tiene el potencial de cambiar el resultado futuro de un estudiante para bien, en su camino en alcanzar la etapa de graduación. Como los panelistas de la entrevista de Excelencia en la Educación escucharon de primera mano, el trabajo que está realizando este grupo de finalistas es extraordinario y todos podríamos beneficiarnos de seguir su ejemplo, porque las relaciones son importantes. A su manera única, el trabajo de nuestros 50 finalistas está ayudando a cambiar positivamente la narrativa sobre nuestro distrito y esta ciudad. Como superintendente, no podría estar más orgulloso de trabajar con ellos.

El punto culminante de la noche llegó cuando los miembros de la junta estudiantil Malak Sarama y Eduardo Casarubias entregaron los sobres ganadores, revelando a los ganadores de Excelencia en la Educación de 2019. Felicitaciones a Lorena Almaguer de (Escuela Preparatoria Roosevelt), empleada clasificada del año; Kristen Lee de (Escuela Primaria Eaton), Educadora de Primaria certificada del año; Esmeralda Ruiz de (Secundaria Sequoia), certificada como Educadora del año en Secundaria; Tamela Ryatt (Escuela Preparatoria Sunnyside), Educadora certificada del año en Escuelas Preparatorias; y Pamela Taylor (Escuela Primaria Easterby), Administradora del año. Felicitaciones especiales a Lorena, Kirsten y Pam, quienes están avanzando a los premios de Educadora del Año del Condado de Fresno más adelante este otoño.

Miles de empleados en este distrito están haciendo un trabajo increíble en nombre de nuestros 74,000 estudiantes y sus esfuerzos nos están haciendo un mejor distrito. Como verá en esta edición de Construyendo Futuros, su

impacto es ilimitado.

Kev Kawm Txuj Ci Tau Zoo Ua Kev Zoo Siab Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv Tsev Neeg

Lub hlis dhau los , Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv tau muaj ib lub koob tsheej uas kuv nyiam tshaj – peb niaj xyoo muaj puas mov muab dej siab rau kev Kawm Txuj Ci Zoo. Rau li ob peb xuaj moos, tsev yim neeg, tej phooj tej ywg thiab cov khub ua hauj lwm tau tuaj ua ke nyob rau hauv ib lub qab ruv tsev los ua kev zoo siab rau qee yam hauj lwm ua tau zoo tau ua los ntawm cov neeg laus hauv peb kev ua hauj lwm: peb lub Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv cov neeg ua hauj lwm.

Cov neeg raug qhuas no sawv cev tag nrho peb txhua tus hauv peb lub hauv paus tsev kawm ntawv – cov xib fwb, cov thawj xib fwb, cov neeg tu tsev, cov neeg pab kev ruaj ntseg, cov psychologists, cov neeg khiav dej num hauv office thiab coob coob tus ntxiv. Thaum lawv lub luag hauj lwm thiab kev ris dej num zoo sib txawv, txhua tus yeej ua ntsi ntsees rau tib lub hom phiaj – muaj tus yam ntxwv zoo hloov tau cov hlus ntawm peb lub hauv paus tsev kawm ntawv. Nyob rau sab nraum qab, peb cov neeg ua hauj lwm ua tau tej yam xav tsis thoob rau cov tub kawm ntawv uas tsis muaj feem ib feem ntawm qhov dej num thiab kuj muaj ntau zaus tsis raug ris txiaj ntsig. Lawv ua tej yam li no twb yog vim lawv mov tshua peb cov tub kawm ntawv tiag tiag, zoo tib yam nkaus li yog lawv tus kheej cov me nyuam. Ib tub xib fwb, tom qab ib tug tub kawm ntawv nws leej niam tau tua nws tus kheej, tau pab nws kawm tiav los ntawm them tag nrho tej nqi kawm tiav, muab nws txuas nrog kev qhuab ntuas thiab xyuas nraim txog nws cov qhab nia thiab ua kom paub meej tias nws muaj sij hawm thiab muaj chaw rau nws tau ua hoob vawj.

Peb muaj ib tug thawj saib tu vaj tu tsev nws, txawm tias nws yuav muaj hauj lwm ntau nraum li cas los, siv sij hawm los txhawb pab tus tub kawm ntawv tuaj tshiab nws tau tuaj tim Thaib Teb tuaj. Nws xyuas nws txhua hnuab thiab ua li muaj peev xwm ua tau los pab nws kom ua tau zoo nyob rau hauv chaw kawm thiab hauv nws lub teb chaws tshiab.

Peb muaj ib tub pab saib kev ruaj ntseg nws cob qhia tus kheej kev sib raug zoo nrog cov tub kawm ntawv. Nws cov khub ua hauj lwm tau hais tias coob tug hauv nws lub tsev kawm ntawv yuav

raug muab nua los raug ntiab tawm yog nws tsis tau pab lawv kawm txog kev los tswj txoj kev ntxhov siab thiab kev tsis sib haum li cas.

Ua ib tus neeg tub txawg tub ntse yeej sis yooj yim, tiam sis txoj hauj lwm peb tej twb tug ua hauv ib tug tub kawm ntawv muaj peev xwm hloov tau nws lub neej. Nws yog ib txoj kev ris dej num zoo tshaj plaws, ib qho yog muaj peev xwm hloov tau ib tug tub kawm ntawv lub neej tom ntej kom zoo dua qub, kom lawv mus ncav them uas kawm tiav. Tam li “Excellence in Education” cov neeg xam phaj tau hnov thawj zaug, qhov hauj lwm raug ua tiav los ntawm cov neeg zeeg kawg no yog ib qhov zoo kawg nkaus thiab peb txhua tus tau txiaj ntsim los ntawm lawv kev ntaus thawj – yeeb vim kev sib raug zoo tseem ceeb. Nyob rau lawv txoj kev tshwj xeeb, dej num ntawm peb 50 tug neeg sib tw thaum kawg pab hloov kev piav qhia zoo txog peb lub hauv paus tsev kawm ntawv thiab lub nroog nov. Tam lis tus tuam thawj saib kev kawm, kuv tsis muaj yam dab tsi yuav zoo siab tshaj los ua hauj lwm nrog lawv.

Qhov zoo siab tshaj plaws rau hmo ntawm yog thaum tub kawm ntawv cov thawj coj Malak Sarama thiab Eduardo Casarubias tau nqa lub hnab ntawv yeej los, nthuav qhia 2019 Excellence in Education cov neeg yeej. Nrog zoo siab rau Lorena Almaguer (Roosevelt High School), Classified Employee ntawm lub Xyoo; Kristen Lee (Eaton Elementary School), Cov Xib Fwb Tsev Kawm Ntawv Theem Qis ntawm lub Xyoo; Esmeralda Ruiz (Sequoia Middle School), Cov Xib Fwb Tsev Kawm Ntawv Theem Nrab ntawm Lub Xyoo; Tamela Ryatt (Sunnyside High School), Cov Xib Fwb Tsev Kawm Ntawv Theem Siab ntawm lub Xyoo; thiab Pamela Taylor (Easterby Elementary School), Thawj Coj ntawm lub Xyoo. Nrog zoo siab tshwj xeeb rau Lorena, Kirsten thiab Pam, nws mus rau Fresno County Educator of the Year muab nqi zog tom ntej no lub caij nplooj zeeg.

Ntau txheeb tus neeg ua hauj lwm hauv lub hauv paus tsev kawm ntawv no ua hauj lwm tau zoo heev sawv cev ntawm peb 77,000 tug tub kawm ntawv thiab lawv txoj kev nquag ua rau peb lub hauv paus tsev kawm ntawv zoo dua qub. Raws koj yuav pom nyob rau tsab ntawv xov xwm ntawm Building Futures, lawv ua rau lub neej txawv txav ntau kawg nkaus.



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