

BUILDING futures

A Publication of the Fresno Unified School District

A C H I E V I N G O U R G R E A T E S T P O T E N T I A L

Schools Reopen for In-Person Learning with Safety Protocols in Place

Aug. 12 was an exciting day! Fresno Unified welcomed students back to the start of the new school year with in-person learning for all students.

Across the district teachers, principals and staff greeted students as they returned to the most normal school day since schools were closed due to

COVID-19 in March 2020.

Students who wished to continue learning from home in the next school year could enroll in the district's [eLearn Academy](#). Teachers are not continuing to simultaneously teach students in the classroom and students at home. (See page 9 for more on eLearn Academy.)

Schools were decorated with posters and staff found a variety of ways to welcome students back. At Duncan Polytechnical High School, Link Crew leadership students flanked the walkway to welcome students as they entered the



Josiah Vazquez, a second grader at Addams Elementary School, is excited to be back at school.

See **SCHOOLS REOPEN** Continued on page 13

When a Student or Staff Member Tests Positive for COVID-19

The district follows strict protocols from the Fresno County Department of Public Health when a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19:

- The student or staff member must go home and isolate away from household family members. If unable to isolate from household family members, there is an added 10-day quarantine for those living in the house unless vaccinated and symptom free.

With symptoms, individual must isolate until:

- It has been 10 days since symptoms
- 24 hours with no fever (without the use of fever-reducing medicine) and
- Symptoms are improved

Without symptoms, individual must isolate for 10 days from positive test date until:

- 10 days have passed and
- No symptoms developed

Contact Tracing

To help stop the spread of COVID-19 and keep students and staff safe, the district traces who has had close contact with a person with COVID-19. Based on when the individual was first symptomatic, tracing identifies close contacts from the 48-hour time period prior to the onset of symptoms. If asymptomatic but positive, tracing identifies close contacts based on 48-hours prior to the positive test.

- Close contact is someone who has been within six feet of an infected person for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period on a cumulative basis
- A person identified as a close contact who is not vaccinated and symptom free must quarantine at home for 10 days from the date of last contact with infected person
- The close contact can be cleared on day 7 with a negative test taken on day 5 or 6 from last exposure to the positive person

[More Information on COVID-19 Safety Practices and Guidelines](#)
[District COVID-19 Dashboard](#)

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion are Priorities for District

Fresno Unified has a variety of initiatives underway to support diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) for students, staff and parents.

Through DEI efforts, the district strives to eliminate bias of any kind that affects student achievement and their overall well-being. The goal is also to eliminate disparities in educational outcomes for students



from historically underserved and underrepresented populations.

At the foundation of the work is a [board policy](#) adopted by the Fresno Unified Board of Education that states in part,

See **DEI** Continued on page 12

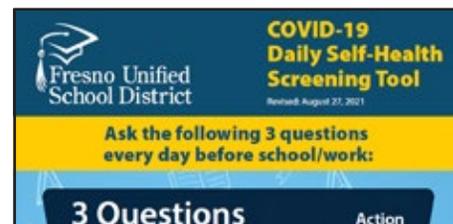
For More on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, go to Pages 3, 6 and 14



Back to School Photos (Pages 5 and 6)



Olympic Medal for District Employee (Page 11)



Are you doing the Self-Health Screening Tool? (Page 16)



Superintendent Message in Spanish and Hmong (Page 15)



PARENTS

Starr Parents Know the Value of being Involved in their School

One of the district's [newly adopted goals](#) is the family goal: "Increase inclusive opportunities for families to engage in their students' education." With the start of the new school year and the return to in-person learning, campuses continue to seek ways to increase connections with parents.

[Parent University](#) is a great resource for parents to learn how to support their students' academic journey. (See list on this page of Parent University virtual classes this fall.) Parents should also check with their school on how to be involved.

Parent Tracy Dere-Ruppel, mother of a Starr Elementary School third grader, is among the many Fresno Unified parents who know the value of being an involved parent. She checks the Parent University website for information and uses the ATLAS parent portal to access information on her daughter.

Dere-Ruppel was Starr's PTA vice president last year and volunteers her time to help in the classroom and with fundraisers and extracurricular activities. (Because COVID-19 continues to pose a health threat in the community, non-essential visitors are not allowed on campuses right now.)

Dere-Ruppel received a transfer for her daughter to go to school in Fresno Unified.

"We love the diversity and overall look



Steven Ruppel and Tracy Dere-Ruppel are involved parents at Starr Elementary School, where their daughter, Hunter, attends.

of Fresno Unified and Starr Elementary School," Dere-Ruppel said.

Dere-Ruppel's first experience with Fresno Unified was through the preschool program for 3-year-olds at Duncan Polytechnical High School. When their daughter was old enough for kindergarten, they chose Starr.

"We heard wonderful things from a lot of people and about the school being a small family, which was a huge draw for us," Dere-Ruppel said.

Dere-Ruppel said they are happy that schools have reopened to in-person learning. Their daughter, an only child, missed being with friends and was not

as challenged with virtual learnings as she is with in-person learning.

Now that their daughter is back in the classroom, Dere-Ruppel said they feel confident in the district's safety protocols.

"However, we still worry about the outside elements, such as other families and staff not being as safe as they should be," Dere-Ruppel said.

Dere-Ruppel said it's important for parents to be involved in their children's education.

"Kids love when their parents get to be around. They feel special and it builds

their confidence. Knowing who is influencing and around your child for that many hours a day is definitely a plus because they help influence who they grow to become," Ruppel said.

Los Padres de Starr Saben el Valor de Participar

Unas de las [metas recientemente adoptadas](#) por el distrito es la meta de familia: Aumentar las oportunidades inclusivas para que las familias participen en la educación de sus estudiantes. Con el comienzo del nuevo año escolar y el regreso al aprendizaje en persona, los planteles escolares continúan buscando formas de aumentar las conexiones con los padres.

[Universidad de Padres](#) es un gran recurso para que los padres aprendan cómo apoyar el viaje académico de sus estudiantes. (Vea la lista en esta página de las clases virtuales de la Universidad de Padres para este otoño). Los padres también deben verificar con su escuela para ver cómo participar.

La madre Tracy Dere-Ruppel, madre de un alumno de tercer grado de la Escuela Primaria Starr, se encuentra entre los muchos padres del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno que conocen el valor de ser un padre involucrado. Consulta el sitio web de la Universidad

See [PARENT U](#)
Continued on page 7

Parent University Classes help Families Support their Students

Parent University will continue to empower families alongside community-based partners by providing virtual family learning opportunities in English, Hmong, and Spanish.

The fall schedule of classes will continue through Nov. 19. Family learning topics include:

- College and Career Readiness
- Family Leaders Program
- Fatherhood Program
- Introduction to Special Education
- Let's Go to College
- Middle School Readiness
- Neighborhood Improvement Discussions
- Opening Doors
- Parent Engagement
- Virtual Readiness & Emergency Preparedness

Further on-site family instruction will be offered as space allows at school sites.

[The entire schedule of family learning classes is here.](#)



Parent University held a drive-by and walk-up event on Oct. 16 to provide materials for parents to support their students' academics at home. A wide array of virtual classes are being held this fall to help parents.



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BUILDING FUTURES

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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*

It's Great to be Back in School, Learning In Person

We're back, #FUSDFamily! Last month we welcomed our students back to our campuses for full-time, in-person learning, and we couldn't be happier to have done so. As we return to campuses, I want to take a moment to highlight one of our newly adopted district values – "We Value Learning." That value is truly why we are back on campuses this school year, even as COVID-19 has not left our community. We know that most of our students do their best learning in the classroom alongside their teachers and fellow students, and thankfully we have



Robert G. Nelson, Ed.D.
Superintendent

the support of our medical professionals to prioritize that in-person learning.

The energy on our campuses during the first days and weeks was absolutely magical! Check out these videos to hear first day reactions directly from our [students and parents](#), our [on-campus staff](#), and our [classified staff](#). The excitement is palpable, the normal first day jitters are present, and parents are a mix of emotions. We cannot sugarcoat it – our parents have had some of the toughest decisions to make while the pandemic continues to make its mark on our community. While the vast majority have opted to send their children back to campuses, we had a dramatic increase in [eLearn Academy](#) enrollments as the first day of school approached. No matter what choice was best for your family, please know that our value of high-quality learning will continue to guide the way in either scenario.

Whether online or in-person, we are committed to providing high quality teaching and learning that involves challenging and relevant experiences to produce critical, collaborative, and solution-oriented thinkers. We will create learning experiences that support a wide range of ability and are focused on improving every day with constructive and consistent feedback. We emphasize that learning is enjoyable, engaging, and interactive – no matter the modality. And most importantly, we know all students can learn and we demonstrate that by having high expectations and a growth mindset.

As we continue through this school year, please also know that we are here

See [SUPT. MESSAGE SPANISH AND HMONG](#)
Continued on page 15

Message from Lindsay Fox, President and Chief Executive Officer of United Way Fresno and Madera Counties

Building an Equitable Future for All

At the end of first grade, my life changed.

I got glasses. They weren't cute or cool. They were thick and round and I was the only student in my class with them. The fashion statement was not what changed my life; it was the world I could suddenly see with clarity. I've since graduated from glasses to contacts. Every couple of years as my eye doctor updates my lenses, I feel the same abrupt change as when I was 7. Better clarity.

This is what our personal and collective journeys to a more equitable world are like. Changing. Evolving. Improving focus. We all generally agree that things



Lindsay Fox
President and Chief Executive Officer of United Way Fresno and Madera Counties

like fairness should be part of the fabric of our society. My own organization, United Way Fresno and Madera Counties, was founded on the idea that we should advance the common good. But like so many others, we got stuck. Racism and inequality became so common place we told ourselves that "it's just the way things are."

In June 2020, open letters to the community condemning racism and committing to equity poured forth from businesses and organizations alike. As we were reeling from the pandemic, including the clear inequalities COVID highlighted, the counterstrike of racial unrest left us upended. This new lens could not be ignored. At least that was my experience at the helm of one of the oldest community organizations. And I've discovered that I am not alone. As United Way has marched forward, we have been proud to partner with Fresno Unified to advance equity. Our framework is simple and might be useful to you in upgrading your own clarity:

Learning: Our 21-Day Race Equity series is an effort to provide learning tools to help curious community partners (many in Fresno Unified) learn more about the history of racism. The Challenge is only one stop on a lifelong commitment to learning.

Healing: Fresno Unified was a partner in the Warriors Healers Builders effort, a joint project with Fresno City College, to provide safe spaces and tools to help educators, community leaders, and parents heal.

Listening: We elevate student and community voices over our own (something we see FUSD doing, too). We know that we learn the most when we listen to those closest to the problem.

Championing: Whether it's backing businesses owned by people of color, having tough conversations, emotional cheerleading or financial support, a lot is gained when we support each other.

<https://www.uwfm.org/race-equity/>

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.



Back to School



MONICA MADRIGAL-ALEX, VICE PRINCIPAL AT DUNCAN POLYTECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL, HELPS ZENYA AND KENYA DELOYA ESTELA ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL, AUG. 12.



THIRD GRADERS AT ADDAMS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LEARNED A LITTLE BIT ABOUT EACH OTHER DURING AN OUTDOOR ICE-BREAKER GAME ON AUG. 13.



FRESNO UNIFIED SUPERINTENDENT BOB NELSON STOPS OFF AT A SIXTH-GRADE DUAL IMMERSION CLASS AT LEAVENWORTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ON AUG. 12 AS HE TOURED SCHOOLS ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL. TEACHER ROSSANA IRAHETA IS AT THE BACK.



FROM LEFT ARE FIFTH GRADERS ERNESTO GONZALEZ, ANABELLE VAN HOUTEN, JULIO CARRASCO, MICHAEL SCOTT AND VIRGIL GOMEZ, WITH TEACHER MARTHA SOTO AND STUDENT MASON ROBERSON IN BACK, HAVING FUN ON THE PLAYGROUND ON AUG. 12



FROM LEFT ARE FORT MILLER SEVENTH GRADERS KEAUNDRE STANDFIELD, MIGUEL RUIZ, DRELL PICKETT, JOSHUA PARKER, ISMAEL GUZMAN AND JUAN LOPEZ-OROZCO ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.



STUDENTS ARE READY TO GET TO WORK AT WISHON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ON THE FIRST DAY, AUG. 12. STUDENTS ARE FROM LEFT, FRONT ROW, ASANTI ADDISON, ALAN BARRANCA RUVALCABA AND ELIZABETH PANZO HUERTA.



LEADERSHIP STUDENTS FROM LINK CREW WELCOME DUNCAN POLYTECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS BACK ON AUG. 12.



TEACHER CHRISTIAN DUNN WORKS WITH SOME OF HIS SECOND GRADE STUDENTS AT HOLLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.

Back to School



DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

Students Have a Voice in Diversity Efforts through Collaborative

One component of diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) efforts in Fresno Unified schools is to elevate student voices.

During the last school year, the Student Voice Collaborative was formed to create change and foster school partnerships, with students at the forefront. The collaborative was an outgrowth of the Race and Social Action Advisory Council (RSAAC), giving even more student groups an opportunity to make an impact.

The goal of both RSAAC and the Student Voice Collaborative is to support social action, combining cultural proficiency learning, multicultural experiences and culturally responsive practices to systematically decrease disproportionality and increase equitable and inclusive outcomes.

During the past year, the students

created goals and took part in training.

The collaboration is made up of more than 50 young leaders from all district high schools, representing diverse student groups. Groups represented are A4 Student Voice, Black Student Union Advisory Council, Communications Student Advisory Council, English Learner Student Advisory Council, Foster Youth Advisory Council, Gender and Sexualities Alliances Youth Voice Committee, Race and Social Action Advisory Council and Special Education Advisory Committee.

The groups also carried out projects on their own during the last school year. For example, the Communications Student Advisory Council worked with the district's Communications Department to create a [mental health awareness video](#), aimed at helping students.

The focus is to increase student voice

among historically underrepresented and marginalized groups to ensure all

student groups have an opportunity to be heard.



Students from the Communications Student Advisory Council created a mental health awareness video last May as part of Student Voice Collaborative work to support diversity, equity and inclusion. Clockwise from front are district media production specialists Bryce Marshall and Jeff Cook, recent Edison High School graduate Valentina Lopez, Edison student Kadence Ski, Communications executive officer Amy Idsvoog and Fresno High School student Bryan J. Alonso.

Fresno Unified Focused on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Hiring

Fresno Unified has a longstanding emphasis on hiring a workforce that reflects its diverse student population and the community.

The district's diversity, equity and inclu-

sion (DEI) initiative has only elevated efforts and provided more tools for the district as it competes for diverse employees to fill a variety of jobs.

As part of the new goals that the Fresno

Unified Board of Education adopted in October 2020, the staff goal is to "Increase recruitment and retention of staff reflecting the diversity of our community."

Fresno Unified's recruitment efforts are designed to not only reflect the faces of the community and students but meet district staffing goals for hard-to-fill positions, such as in the area of speech language pathology.

Fresno Unified will participate in and host a variety of events to help meet hiring needs, including:

- Recruiting at the San Joaquin Valley Black Expo
- Hosting a webinar for the top 16 speech pathology schools in California
- Hosting a webinar with the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Connect group to recruit new teachers early in the winter and support their efforts to obtain California credentials

The district is also working hard to fill paraprofessional vacancies left by employees who have become teachers, as well as find substitutes to replace substitutes who have earned their credentials.

The district is also committed to having no child on the waiting list for the after school extended learning program and is seeking to fill jobs in the program, including targeting new students at local colleges.

The Human Resources Department will have staff available from 1-3 p.m. throughout September to answer questions from potential employees and help with technology questions for those applying online.

"Our hope is to move swiftly and smoothly through the process after the fingerprinting clearance so that our students have bus drivers, office staff, and substitute teachers every day," said Felicia Quarles-Treadwell, a director in Human Resources.



Fresno Unified strives for diversity in its employees. Fort Miller Middle School staff celebrating the start of school are, back row from left, Principal Abraham Olivares, academic counselor Shayla Hayes and vice principals Kari Pruett and Mike Ellis; front, from left, guidance learning advisor Andriana Scherrer, deputy superintendent Misty Her, office manager Gail Evans and academic counselor Patricia Gallardo.



PARENT U

Continued from page 2

de Padres para obtener información y utiliza el portal para padres de ATLAS para acceder a información sobre su hija.

Dere-Ruppel fue vicepresidenta de la PTA de Starr el año pasado y ofrece su tiempo como voluntaria para ayudar en el salón de clases y con eventos para recaudar fondos y actividades extracurriculares. (Debido a que COVID-19 continúa representando una amenaza para la salud en la comunidad, no se permiten visitantes no esenciales en la escuela en este momento).

Dere-Ruppel recibió una transferencia para que su hija fuera a la escuela en el Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno.

“Nos encanta la diversidad y el aspecto general del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno y la Escuela Primaria Starr”, dijo Dere-Ruppel.

La primera experiencia de Dere-Ruppel con el Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno fue a través del programa preescolar para niños de 3 años en la Escuela Preparatoria Politécnica de Duncan. Cuando su hija tuvo edad suficiente para el kínder, eligieron a Starr.

“Escuchamos cosas maravillosas de mucha gente y acerca de que la escuela es una familia pequeña, lo cual fue un gran atractivo para nosotros”, dijo Dere-Ruppel.

Dere-Ruppel dijo que están felices de que las escuelas se hayan reabierto al aprendizaje en persona. Su hija, como hija única, extrañaba estar con amigos y no se sentía motivada con los aprendizajes virtuales como ella lo está con el aprendizaje en persona.

Ahora que su hija está de regreso en el salón de clases, Dere-Ruppel dijo que se sienten confiados en los protocolos de seguridad del distrito.

“Sin embargo, todavía nos preocupan los elementos externos, como el que otras familias y el personal, no estén tomando las precauciones de seguridad como deberían”, dijo Dere-Ruppel.

Dere-Ruppel dijo que es importante que los padres se involucren en la educación de sus hijos.

“A los niños les encanta cuando sus padres están cerca. Se sienten especiales y les genera confianza. Saber quién influye en su hijo y quién

lo rodea durante tantas horas al día es definitivamente una ventaja, ya que ayuda a influir en quien se convertirá”, dijo Ruppel.

Starr Cov Niam Txiv Paub Txoj Kev Muaj Nuj Nqis Ntawm Kev Sib Koom Tes

Ib qho ntawm Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv [cov hom phiaj tshiab uas peb mus txais los xyaum ua raws](#) yog lub hom phiaj npaj rau tsev neeg: muaj cov hwn tsam ntxiv rau cov yim neeg muaj kev sib koom tes nrog lawv cov tub ntxhais txoj kev kawm. Cov tsev kawm ntawv tseem niaj hnub nrhiav txoj hauv sib txuas ntxiv nrog cov niam txiv thaum peb pib kawm ntawv xyoo tshiab thiab rov kawm tim ntsej tim muag.

[Parent University](#) yog ib qho kev pab zoo heev rau cov niam txiv los kawm txog tias yuav pab txhawb nqa lawv cov tub ntxhais txoj hauv kev kawm li cas. (Saib daim ntawv sau npe nyob rau ntawm daim ntawv no txog Parent University cov chav kawm saum duab ntuj rau lub caij nplooj zeeg no.) Cov niam txiv yuav tsum tau mus nrog lawv cov tsev kawm ntawv tham tias yuav ua li cas thiaj li koom tau.

Leej niam Tracy Dere-Ruppel, yog ib leej niam ntawm ib tug tub kawm qib peb ntawm Starr Elementary School, yog ib tug ntawm cov feem coob ntawm Fresno Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv cov niam txiv uas paub txog txoj kev muaj nuj nqis txog niam txiv txoj kev koom tes. Nws saib Parent University website los nrhiav cov ntaub ntawv thiab siv qhov niam txiv qhov kev nkag hauv ATLAS los mus nkag rau cov ntaub ntawv txog nws tus ntxhais.

Dere-Ruppel yog Starr’s tus PTA lwm thawj coj xyoo tas los thiab muab nws lub sijhawm pub dawb los mus pab hauv cov chav kawm ntawv thiab nrog kev nrhiav nyiaj txiag thiab pab kev kawm ua ub no sab nrauv. (Yog vim COVID-19 ua ib qho kev txhawj xeeb rau hauv peb lub zej zog txuas ntxiv, cov neeg tsis muaj hauj lwm tseem ceeb tsis pub tuaj mus rau tom tsev kawm ntawv lub caij no.)

Dere-Ruppel tau txais ib qho kev hloov pauv tsev kawm ntawv rau nws tus ntxhais mus kawm rau hauv Fresno Unified.

“Peb nyiam qhov nws muaj ntau haiv neeg thiab pom tag nrho txhua yam zoo ntawm Fresno Unified thiab Starr Elementary School,” Dere-Ruppel tau hais.

Dere-Ruppel xub thawj paub Fresno Unified los ntawm lub preschool kev kawm rau cov muaj peb xyoo ntawm Duncan Polytechnical High School. Thaum nws tus ntxhais muaj hnub nyoog txaus rau kindergarten, nws xaiv Starr.

“Peb hnob tej yam zoo kawg nkaus los ntawm ntau leej neeg thiab txog lub tsev kawm ntawv uas yog ib tsev neeg me me, ntawd yog yam peb xav tau tshaj,” Dere-Ruppel hais.

Dere-Ruppel hais tias nws zoo siab uas tsev kawm ntawv rov qhib kev kawm tim ntsej tim muag. Nkawv tus ntxhais, yog ib leeg me nyuam, nco kev nrog phoojywg thiab kev kawm tim ntsej tim muag tsis nyuaj npaum li thaum kawm saum duab ntuj.

Tam sim no nkawv tus ntxhais tau rov mus kawm hauv chav kawm ntawv lawm, Dere-Ruppel hais tias nkawv ntseeg siab rau Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm

Ntawv cov txheej txheem rau kev nyob nyab xeeb.

“Txawm li cas los, peb yeej tseem txhawj txog tej yam sab nrauv, xwm li lwm cov yim neeg thiab cov neeg ua haujlwm uas lawv tsis xyuam xim raws li qhov lawv yuav tsum ua,” Dere-Ruppel hais.

Dere-Ruppel hais tias yog ib qho tseem ceeb rau cov niam txiv los xyuas muaj kev koom tes nrog lawv cov tub ntxhais txoj kev kawm.

“Cov me nyuam nyiam heev thaum lawv niam thiab txiv tau nyob nrog lawv ua ke. Ua rau lawv pom lawv tus kheej muaj nqis thiab muaj peev xwm. Yog paub hais tias leej twg cob qhia thiab nyob ib puag cig nrog koj tus me nyuam nws yuav yog ib qho zoo vim tias lawv yog cov pab cob qhia thiab ua qauv ntawm tus menyuam txoj kev kawm loj hlob,” Ruppel hais.

Real Estate Association Donates Backpacks to Storey

Every student at Storey Elementary School received a new backpack and school supplies on Aug. 24, thanks to the Asian Real Estate Association of America (AREAA) on Aug. 24. The donations were possible thanks to a fundraising drive by AREAA to ensure every student started the new school year with the necessary supplies.

Important Dates

Sept. 6	Labor Day Holiday
Sept. 8, 15 and 29 (workshop)	Board of Education Meetings
Sept. 20, Oct. 11, Jan. 10, Feb. 28 and March 21	No School for Students (Professional Learning Days for Staff)



Help Plan Parks, Trails, and After-School Programs for Fresno's Kids!

The City of Fresno has begun planning for Measure P funding and we want parents to get involved and help decide which neighborhoods, projects and programs to invest in.

Measure P will provide safer, cleaner parks and trails for our kids, and support after school and youth arts and recreational programs.

FUNDING WILL:

Maintain, repair and improve existing parks, trails and facilities

Create new parks and trails where they are needed most

Support cultural arts programs and after-school programs

Reduce crime, graffiti and homelessness in parks



Learn more and stay engaged at fresnoforparcs.com



District's Expanded After School Program offers Academic Support

The district launched an expanded after school program on Aug. 16, the first in-person after school opportunity since schools closed due to the pandemic in March 2020.

Thanks to additional funding, the district is expanding the program as it is able to hire more employees to accommodate projected enrollment.

New this year, every student who attends the 70 sites where [the After School Education and Safety \(ASES\)](#) program is held were automatically entered into a lottery for a spot in the program. Fresno Unified implemented a randomized computer lottery system so that every student had an equal opportunity for enrollment into ASES. The lottery results were posted Aug. 12, at the sites' main office bulletin board and cafeteria doors.

The ASES program is for transitional kindergarten through sixth grade at elementary school sites and through eighth grade at middle school sites.

ASES provides a healthy snack, homework support, academic intervention in reading and math, physical fitness, and enrichment activities. The program also strives to increase student motivation and connection to school.

The district also operates an [Extended Day Enrichment Program \(EDEP\)](#) at nine sites for transitional kindergarten through sixth grade (eighth grade at Bullard TALENT K-8 School). For the first time, this program is free instead of fee based. Interest in the program has doubled and the district is seeking employees to accommodate growth.

EDEP offers activities that reflect school site activities, including art, science, math and reading.

All program enrollment capacities are contingent upon adequate staffing ratios, availability of facilities, and principal oversight.

The district will continue to increase after school program staffing over the course of the coming weeks where the highest needs for after school program services and supports exist. Additional staffing will increase capacity at individual school sites resulting in more opportunities for student enrollment.



Gisselle Chavez, front, and Amancio Sotelo, both fifth graders, get some exercise during the after school program at Jefferson Elementary School. As staffing becomes available, the district is expanding its after school programs.

ASES Program Sites

Elementary Schools:

Addams, Anthony, Ayer, Aynsworth, Bakman, Balderas, Birney, Burroughs, Calwa, Centennial, Columbia, Del Mar, Easterby, Ericson, Ewing, Fremont, Greenberg, Hamilton K-8, Heaton, Hidalgo, Holland, Homan, Jackson, Jefferson, King, Kirk, Kratt, Lane, Lawless, Leavenworth, Lincoln, Lowell, Mayfair, McCardle, Muir, Norseman, Olmos, Powers-Ginsburg, Pyle, Robinson, Roeding, Rowell, Slater, Storey, Sunset, Thomas, Turner, Vang Pao, Viking, Vinland, Wawona (K-2), Webster, Williams, Wilson, Winchell, Wishon, Wolters and Yokomi

Middle Schools:

Ahwahnee, Cooper, Edison Computech, Fort Miller, Kings Canyon, Scandanavian, Sequoia, Tehipite, Terronez, Tioga, Wawona, and Yosemite

EDEP Sites:

Bullard TALENT, Eaton, Figarden, Forkner, Gibson, Leavenworth, Malloch, Manchester GATE, and Starr

Expanded eLearn Academy Provides Online School Opportunity



Amy Smith is eLearn Academy's first principal.

The district's [eLearn Academy](#) has grown from 300 students last year to more than 3,000 as it provides a high-quality alternative for students to continue learning from home.

Although most district students returned to full time in-person learning when the new school year started on Aug. 12, a significant number of families have chosen to have their students remain in virtual learning.

In about a week, as school started, enrollment jumped from 450 to 2,500, with more than 1,500 of those students in elementary grades.

"That influx is huge and not only did the eLearn team step up to the plate and keep rolling, but so many partners from other departments and sites have stepped up to support and are working daily to ensure those eLearn students have everything they need to be success-

ful," said Superintendent Bob Nelson.

eLearn Academy opened in 2016 for grades 7-12 and added elementary grades last year when schools closed to in-person learning due to COVID-19. This year, transitional kindergarten (TK) has been added.

Students in TK through sixth grade work with a live teacher while doing their online learning, while the older students

have independent learning with regularly scheduled teacher connections.

"Providing an online learning opportunity for students and families not only ensures an option during the pandemic but also a choice to learn online in the future," said Principal Amy Smith. "We're very excited to provide another option for families and to create a school with amazing opportunities for students who choose to stay online."

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Full STEAM Ahead for Tech-Related Student Clubs and Activities

Students of all ages can participate in fun tech-related activities this year, from building robots to competing on a Minecraft team to learning how to create

computer code. Over the last few years, the district has built an impressive array of clubs



From left, student John Vang, teacher Ash Jones and student Tania Valdovinos are part of the ClubRED robotics team at Duncan Polytechnical High School

and activities that focus on STEAM -- science, technology, engineering, arts and math. STEAM describes an integrated approach to learning that encourages students to think more broadly about real-world problems.

Code Clubs

CoderClubs and CoderGirlz are offered after school for students in kindergarten through 12th grade.

- Teaches coding skills, critical thinking, creativity, collaboration and communication skills
- Email: coderclubs@fresnounified.org
codergirlz@fresnounified.org
- Websites: coderclubs.org
codergirlz.org

Esports

Last school year, 250 students participated on 26 esports teams at 22 sites with 29 coaches.

- Fresno Unified Esports League (FUEl) is a coed high school esports league offering competition in Rocket League and League of Legends
- FUEl website: <https://fuel.fresnounified.org/>
- Minecraft Education Edition is

game-based learning through competitive builds for grades 4-6 that helps students improve their social-emotional, communication, team building and collaboration skills

- Website: minecraftsports.fresnounified.org
- Email: MCEsports@fresnounified.org

Tournament of Technology

The Tournament of Technology prepares middle school students for a yearly competition focused on developing expertise in 3D design, video production, game and website development, graphic design and robotics engineering.

- All events are STEAM-focused and build 21st century skills
- Website: fresnou.org/sites/tot

ClubRED Robotics

ClubRED introduces students to robotics.

- Students collaborate on designing and engineering a robot to compete in a year-end tournament with other district high schools
- Email: ClubRed@fresnounified.org
- Website: clubred.fresnounified.org

Health Services helps Students get Up to Date on Immunizations



Sandra Gomez, a licensed vocational nurse with the district's Health Services Department, administers immunizations on Aug. 10 during one of the district's free immunization clinics held in August at Tioga Middle School. The clinics helped students get up to date on their vaccinations prior to the start of school.

New Year, New Vision



An oversized poster of the district's new vision statement was placed on the Education Center for the start of the new school year as the district launches an awareness campaign of the new [mission and vision statements, values and goals](#). The district also has a new slogan: "Achieving our Greatest Potential."



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Roosevelt High English Teacher Calls Teaching ‘A Call to Service’

Rhianna Beaumont-Lamb fell in love with Roosevelt High School while working there as a literacy tutor as she completed the Fresno State credential program.



As luck would have it, when she was ready to apply for a fulltime teaching job in 2004, the only high school English position open was at Roosevelt. She is an outstanding teacher who also cares deeply about all aspects of a student’s life. During the past school year when students had to learn from home, she led a push to deliver desks to students who were attending online class from their beds because they had no place else to work from. Beaumont-Lamb was an Excellence in Education finalist in January. Principal Michael Allen said about Beaumont-Lamb: “She is a teacher who connects with every student.”

What made you decide to be a teacher? I became a teacher because

I love students. I started working with them at a local church and saw how many teenagers felt disconnected and needed an adult role model to help them during this turbulent time, so I decided to teach before I decided what to teach. English just happened to be the subject that I most enjoyed, so it seemed logical to teach the people I love, the subject that I love the most.

What do you enjoy the most about your job? I truly believe that teaching is a call to service and that education is transformative. Through education, the trajectory of a child’s life can completely change. As a result of that change, future generations will also be able to access support and resources that an education can provide.

What is the most difficult part of your job? Sometimes the needs of our students are beyond our comprehension and seem insurmountable. I promise to love every single student who walks into my classroom, but they bring so much more than their physical bodies into my room. No child should ever experience the trauma, poverty, and emotional burdens our students carry into our classrooms, and it is heartbreaking and

sometimes overwhelming to not be able to meet every single need. We are so blessed to have an exceptional social-emotional team at RHS, and I would not be able to sleep at night without our SE team because they make every effort to help meet those needs when we cannot.

What’s it been like to have all students back on campus again? I teach in the Health Pathway, so I am able to teach the same group of students for junior and senior English. Last Friday when I saw my former juniors in their senior English classes, my eyes and heart filled. It was so emotional being able to meet the students who I had never seen, and I am so grateful I get to build on that instruction in person this year.

What do you enjoy the most about high school students? Honestly, high school students are challenging, and I really like a challenge. I love that they demand respect before they give it. I love that they question me and make me defend why I am teaching what I am teaching. I love that I am never bored because they are always wanting something new, relevant, and engaging. I love that I can help identify that glimmer in a student’s eye and encourage them

to attend a college they never would have thought to apply for because they are the first in their family to graduate high school. I love that no matter how difficult or hardened a student could be from their past, they show me true resilience, grit, and determination.

If you could choose another career, what would it be? If not a high school English teacher, I would have pursued a career in public service. When I was younger, I wanted to be a firefighter, but I think a career in law enforcement would be equally rewarding. I love how those in public service can positively impact our communities and create safe spaces for our youth.

What is your dream vacation? One day I would love to go somewhere exotic like Bora Bora or Fiji, or travel on a photo safari in Africa.

Name one thing most people don’t know about you. After the war in Kosovo, I traveled to Albania to help distribute aid to organizations that were in need of basic supplies. We worked with local churches, orphanages, and food centers to provide hands-on support after that conflict.

Parent University Language Specialist has an Olympic Gold Medal



Andy Moua shows off his district Excellence in Education medal and an Olympic medal from when he participated in a high school volleyball competition during the 1984 games in L.A.

As a primary language instructional specialist at the district’s Parent University, Andy Moua uses his experiences as a Hmong refugee to help families navigate the school system and help support their children. He has worked for the district for 33 years and was selected as an Excellence in Education finalist in January. Moua was born during the Vietnam War, escaping Laos with his family in 1980 for the United States.

What do you enjoy the most about your job? I enjoy working with schools, staff and, most of all, sharing information with parents on how they can support their students in school.

Describe a typical day for you. Working at Parent University, we have many assignments, activities, and events that we plan and do to support families in ensuring that their students do well academically and can be self-sufficient

one day. On a typical day, I coordinate and translate Hmong materials such as training presentations, flyers, brochures and posters. I recruit families for our Parent University sessions and other school and community events. I present information to parents either virtually or in person to help their students do well in school. I collect and analyze data on projects and training sessions. I support regional schools assigned to me to promote family engagement.

What is the most challenging part of your job? A few of the challenges we have with the Hmong parents nowadays are that fewer parents attend our sessions due to their work schedule conflicting with our parent training sessions. Some state they went through school in this country themselves, so they think they know the system well enough to get around.

What is it like to do weekly segments on Hmong TV? The FUSD Hmong TV talk show at the Hmong USATV station never gets old. Every first and third Tuesday, I go there to share FUSD news, events and information to help parents support their students in school. Parents who have seen me at the different community events are thankful for the information I shared on TV.

What impact did the year of virtual learning have on Hmong families and students? Virtual learning had a significant impact on many Hmong parents because they felt that their students didn’t learn much. At the same time, the Hmong parents felt that they were illiterate on technology use, so they could not help them access the

See **ANDY MOUA**
Continued on page 14



LINKED LEARNING SPOTLIGHT

McLane Students Gain Work Experiences through Paid Internships

At McLane High School, nearly 50 students are engaged in internships this school year, gaining valuable workplace skills and connections for future opportunities.

McLane students are among hundreds of students throughout the district in high school career pathway programs that provide paid internships. Internships extend student learning into the employment setting and provide tangible benefits to students as well as their host site through mentoring, projects, feedback, and evaluation.

Internships may be paid (educational stipend or scholarship upon completion) or unpaid experiences. During an internship, students are exposed to professional skills and gain awareness of workplace culture and industry specific information.

At McLane, the on-campus Union Bank branch is hosting 12 interns through the Mitsubishi United Financial/Union Bank Student Banker program. Students complete more than 60 hours of bank teller training and earn multiple industry certifications throughout the experience and learn to perform deposits and cash transactions.



McLane High School's Victor Lemus, left, and Anthony Mendoza help an athlete with an injury as part of an athletic training clinic internship through the Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission Urban South Youth Services Program. Nearly 50 students at McLane have internships this year.

In addition, the Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission hosts 20 students in its Urban South Youth Services Program. Students complete a work readiness program and are then placed at job sites, including the Veterans Medical Center and Fresno and McLane high schools' athletic training

clinic.

Finally, Fresno Unified board member Veva Islas helped facilitate the hiring of 14 student interns to the COVID-19 Equity Project through the Immigrant Refugee Coalition. Students learn how to provide education on COVID-19 prevention, PPE distribution, testing,

vaccination, and support services.

"It excites me to see students taking advantage of these paid internship opportunities. Not only do they gain work experiences, they are given multiple opportunities to grow and pursue their career goals," said Monorith Arun, coordinator for College and Career Readiness at McLane.

McLane plans to offer additional paid internship opportunities for the 2021-22 school year.

McLane High School CTE Programs

McLane offers [four distinctive career technical education programs](#):

- Academy of Finance and Entrepreneurship – Focus on entrepreneurship and small business and banking and finance
- Art Venture Production Academy – Focus on video production and broadcasting
- Medical Education and Research Academy – A nationally recognized Distinguished Academy with a focus on patient care and medical assisting
- Teacher Academy – Focus on education and teaching

DEI

Continued from page 1

"The governing board believes that the diversity that exists among the district's community of students, staff, parents/guardians and community members are an integral asset to the district's vision, mission and goals. Addressing the needs of all learners requires recognition of the history of injustice to diverse groups and the inherent value of diversity and acknowledgement that educational excellence requires a commitment to equity in the opportunities provided to all students and in the outcomes resulting from those opportunities." The board approved the policy Oct. 16, 2019.

DEI Praxis Collaborative

This school year marks the second for the DEI Praxis Collaborative, a group made up of 40 department leaders from

across Fresno Unified. The collaborative recommends actions to the board of education for the district to identify class and cultural biases and institutional barriers that influence student learning, perpetuate achievement gaps and impede equal access and inclusion.

The collaborative leads training for district employees.

- All employees are taking part in DEI training led by their school or department.
- Staff members are invited to drop-in virtual sessions the second Monday of every month.
- New hires are required to complete eight hours of DEI training.
- Employees can take part in a voluntary intensive 32-hour training, with sessions offered in the fall, winter and spring.

- Employees can sign up for an 80-hour training to help lead DEI work at sites and at the district level.

The DEI Collaborative Praxis also provides voluntary workshops, a newsletter and opportunities to connect culturally with colleagues, including sharing photos of family and family traditions that were assembled into [a cultural celebration video](#) in December.

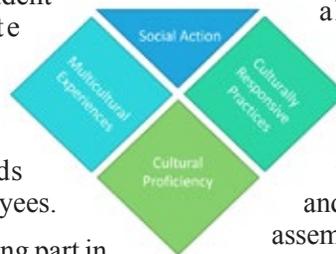
Cultural Connections

Cultural Connections was launched in February by the Department of Equity and Access as an opportunity for employees to dive deeper into cultural proficiency topics and to see what diversity, equity and inclusion looks like within the local community.

Community and district leaders are invited to speak on how they have incorporated elements of cultural proficiency into their organizations and within the district and answer questions about best practices and building collaborative relationships. Employees sign up through the district's iACHIEVE for course 20304.

Cultural Connections virtual seminars last spring included "Responding with an Equity Lens," "Serving the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community," "Access for All" and "Valley Natives for Change."

Four more sessions are planned for this fall virtually: "Central Valley Movement Building: Native American Community Organizing;" "Why Equity Matters;" "Ability Awareness;" and "Difficult Conversations and the Biases we Carry into Them."





SCHOOLS REOPEN Continued from page 1

campus. At Addams Elementary School, third graders gathered in chairs in a circle outside to play an ice-breaker game that involved students saying something they liked and other students standing up who like the same thing.



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

With COVID-19 still a serious health concern, schools continue to be vigilant about health and safety practices, following all the recommendations of county and state health officials. Students and staff are required to wear masks indoors and on buses, schools are limiting visitors and spreading out when possible, although the Centers for Disease Control and California Department of Public Health no longer require six feet of physical distancing.

Health and safety practices also include requiring students and staff to use the daily [self-health screening tool](#) before arriving at campus, frequent hand-washing and sanitizing, daily cleaning and disinfecting, increased classroom ventilation

The district updates a [COVID-19 dashboard](#) each day that reflects the confirmed positive cases of staff and students as reported by a school or department.

When a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, they are sent home to quarantine. Any person who is deemed a close contact to the positive person (within six feet for a cumulative 15 minutes over 24 hours) will also have to quarantine. The close contact can be cleared on day 7 with a negative test on day 5 or 6. The close contact does not have to quarantine if they are fully vaccinated and showing no symptoms.

As the district works toward a district-wide modified quarantine system that can keep more students in school, it is piloting COVID-19 testing for students at a number of sites.

The district has been working tirelessly with nurses (represented by Fresno Teachers Association) to come to an agreement on implementing modified quarantine guidelines. Based on their own capacity, nurses have been forthcoming in sharing their struggles to handle COVID related initiatives and have asked that outside resources be brought in to take over COVID responsibilities.

At the pilot schools, the modified quarantine system will be implemented by school administrators with assistance from volunteers.

These schools will be testing their students who are identified as close contacts to a positive case from a classroom. Under modified quarantine guidelines, close contacts can remain in school if:

- They remain asymptomatic (self-health screening tool)
- Continue to appropriately wear a mask
- Undergo testing during their 10 day exposure period
- Do not participate in extracurricular activities for 10 days, including sports and community activities

The district is in the process of implementing a state mandate announced Aug. 11 that all teachers and staff be vaccinated for COVID-19 by Oct. 15. Those without proof of vaccination will have to test weekly for the virus.

To support students in the coming school year after the many months of virtual learning, the district has added a variety of supports and extra learning opportunities.

Additional Time and Supports

- All elementary, middle and high school students are receiving 30 additional minutes a day of instruction during the first semester focused on literacy and math.
- All elementary and middle school teachers will have the option to continue to provide 30 minutes of instruction for students during the second semester to address literacy and math.
- High schools are offering expanded options for credit recovery and English learner supports all year, and middle schools will also offer additional English learner supports all year.

Extended Learning

- The district offered additional summer sessions and will offer expanded winter sessions for students.
- The district is expanding the after-school program and mentoring and peer tutoring.

The district has also added social emotional and health resources, including more counselors, social workers, psychologists and new Wellness Hubs for student and family support.



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STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Edison High School Student Leader Urges her Peers to Get Involved

2021 has been, without a doubt, a year that many will remember for how young people raised their voices to express themselves on topics like social injustice. Edison High School's Ariana Mikel started participating in that movement when she joined the Student Voice Collaborative (SVC).

The SVC is part of the district's diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) initiative. Within the SVC, Ariana said she can learn and help.

"It benefits me because I know I am not alone in the experiences I face. I joined because I've always been involved with student leadership, and I wanted other young black Latina students like me to join so their voices can be heard," said Ariana, a senior.

Ariana has been involved in other movements, including advocating to defund police on school campuses so the funds can be used on counseling for students and gender-neutral restrooms.

One of her goals is to make sure younger students won't have to deal with the same issues in the future.

"DEI is making sure that students from different backgrounds talk in a safe space. DEI is making sure everyone feels welcome and safe," she said.

From Ariana's perspective, the opportunities are there for all students to make their voice heard through Fresno Unified's SVC or student leadership. All they need to do is join and not be afraid, she said.

"Now we have ideas, and the next step is to develop plans and act on them, whether that is getting more funds for a group or less funding for another group," Ariana said.

The charismatic 17-year-old wants to earn a degree in political science and become a teacher. Her dream was inspired by two of her teachers, Lauren Beal and Shariya Gray, who she described as "two amazing African American women."

The key, Ariana, said, is making personal connections.

"We need to know each other first before we can know each other's stories, and then we will be able to move on from that," she said.



Edison High School senior is already an activist.

ANDY MOUA

Continued from page 11

online tools and resources. They also don't have anyone to check on their students frequently, so they don't know whether the students are doing the work or not. It was also challenging for the working parents who don't have anyone to supervise their kids at home.

The students also had a hard time too because many had slow internet or hot spots. Some of the time, the computer would black out or re-load, and they lost access to the teacher's teaching. When they don't understand the teacher's instructions, they couldn't ask for help.

What impact is Parent University having on families? Parent University is the cornerstone of learning for families because education starts at home, and we empower families by teaching them how to navigate school, district and community resources. We engage in discussions about strategies, ideas and tips for families to promote and ensure that students stay in school and are on target to graduate. We connect families

with different school staff, programs and community members or organizations to ensure that they have enough resources to help improve student achievement.

What is the most important thing that families can do to help their children succeed in school? Every family should set up a routine for their students for both school and home. At an early age, get an alarm clock to set at an appropriate time for the student to get up in the morning. For example, when they get up, they fix their beds, brush their teeth, wash their face, dress and get ready to go to school. They can either eat breakfast at home or go to school early so they can eat. Please push your student to pay attention in their class or classes and play fair during recess or lunch by following the six pillars of character. Encourage students to participate in after-school programs and/or sports. When they come home, make sure they have some time to rest, do homework and appropriate house chores, and read according to their age at least four nights a week before going to bed.

You were president of the Moua clan in Fresno. What did that entail? I

represented my Moua clan community group from 2013 to May of 2021, and oversaw 62 families with about 350 members in California. As the president of the Moua clan, I encouraged family cooperation, collaboration and togetherness. We hosted annual family meetings to share information on marital relationship issues, parenting concerns, substance abuse, depression, anxiety, stress, work concerns and how to resolve conflict culturally. I promoted education for our youngsters. We hosted a family graduation ceremony once a year to recognize students who've completed eight grades and beyond with certificates and trophies or plaques. I promoted Hmong cultural and religious practices and we hosted a new year feast once a year to celebrate our culture and learn traditional practices.

Name one thing most people don't know about you. One thing most people don't know about me is that I was an Olympic youth volleyball champion. I participated in the 1984 Los Angeles Games of the 23rd Olympiad. When the Olympics came to Los Angeles, I was in high school, and there were 64

youth volleyball teams that went to play volleyball, and we won first place. I still have my medal. Also, I don't brag a lot about myself, so many people don't know that I am good at numerous things.

What do you like to do when you are not working? When I am not working, I usually attend community events such as wedding ceremonies, graduation parties, get-well spirit calling parties and funeral services, and I write Hmong cultural traditional practices books. I also enjoy doing yard work.

If you could pursue any career, what would it be? If I could pursue any career, I would finish my counseling credential to be a high school counselor. I love to help students and parents. Helping and teaching people is one of the things I am humbled to do.

What is your dream vacation? I have many dream vacations, but here are a couple of them: Visit the Great Wall of China. I would like to see how they built it. The other is Dubai. I want to see the tall buildings and relax at the hotel and beach. It seems like it is a beautiful place.



SUPT. MESSAGE

Continued from page 3

for our parents with any concerns and needs you may have. Your school sites are prepared to answer your questions and provide supports, and you can find their phone numbers, addresses, and websites through our [school directory by clicking here](#). We also still have our [Exercise Your Brain webpage](#) up and are adding resources for you to use with your children to keep them learning when they're at home as well! And don't forget that we still have our partnership with Valley PBS. Every weekday morning you can catch our teachers from 6:30-7:30 a.m. sharing new lessons, and you can [catch up on older episodes right here](#). Last but certainly not least, our [Parent University](#) continues to stand ready to support our parents through parent learning, parent leadership academies, and more.

This year will still have its tough moments, but the opportunity to be back in-person with our students feeds my soul. Learning is our highest value, it's what we do best, and that high-quality in-person learning is what our students deserve. Let's all work together to follow our [safety guidelines](#) to ensure we can keep our campuses safe, healthy and open for our students to learn together. Please make sure that our students, staff, and visitors complete their [self-health screening](#) every single day before coming to a Fresno Unified site, keep wearing those masks indoors, keep physically distancing as much as possible, and wash those hands frequently. Let's keep moving forward together to achieve our greatest potential!

Es Genial Volver a la Escuela, Aprendiendo En Persona

Estamos de vuelta, ¡#FUSDFamily! El mes pasado le dimos la bienvenida de regreso a nuestros estudiantes a nuestros planteles escolares para aprendizaje de tiempo completo, aprendiendo en persona, y no podríamos estar mas contentos de poderlo hacer. En lo que regresamos al plantel escolar, quiero tomarme un momento para destacar unos de los nuevos valores adoptados- "Nosotros Valoramos el Aprendizaje." Ese valor es verdaderamente la razón por la cual estamos de regreso en el plantel escolar este año escolar, aun cuando el COVID-19 no se ha ido de nuestra comunidad. Sabemos que muchos de nuestros estudiantes aprenden mejor en el salón de clases al lado de sus maestros y sus compañeros estudiantes, y afortunadamente contamos con el apoyo de profesionales médicos para priorizar ese aprendizaje en persona.

¡La energía en nuestros planteles escolares durante los primeros días y semanas fue absolutamente mágica! Miren estos videos para escuchar las reacciones del primer

día directamente de nuestros [estudiantes y padres](#), a nuestro [personal del plantel escolar](#), y nuestro [personal clasificado](#). La emoción fue palpable, el nerviosismo normal del primer día esta presente, y los padres son una mezcla de emociones. No podemos endulzarlo – nuestros padres han tenido que tomar algunas de las decisiones más difíciles mientras la pandemia aun continua dejando su marca en nuestra comunidad. Si bien la gran mayoría han optado por mandar a sus niños de regreso a clases en el plantel escolar, tuvimos un aumento dramático en inscripciones de la [Academia eLearn](#) mientras el primer día de clases se acercaba. Independientemente de la elección que sea mejor opción para su familia, por favor sepa que nuestro valor de aprendizaje de alta calidad seguirá guiando el camino en cualquier escenario.

Ya sea en línea o en persona, estamos comprometidos para proveer enseñanza y aprendizaje de alta calidad que envuelve experiencias desafiantes y relevantes para producir pensadores críticos, colaborativos y orientados a soluciones. Crearemos experiencias de aprendizaje que apoyen una amplia gama de habilidades y están enfocados en mejorar cada día con comentarios constructivos y consistentes. Nosotros enfatizamos que el aprendizaje es agradable, atractivo e interactivo – sin importar la modalidad. Y lo mas importante, sabemos que todos los estudiantes pueden aprender y lo demostramos eso al tener expectativas altas y una mentalidad de crecimiento.

En lo que continuamos a través de este año escolar, sepan que estamos aquí para nuestros padres con cualquier inquietud y necesidades que pueden tener. Las escuelas están preparadas para responder sus preguntas y proveer apoyo, y pueden encontrar sus números telefónicos, domicilio, y páginas web a través de nuestro [directorio escolar al oprimir aquí](#). ¡También aún tenemos nuestra [página web Ejercite Su Cerebro](#) disponible y estamos agregando recursos para que usted use con sus hijos para mantenerlos aprendiendo cuando estén en casa también! Y no olvide que aún tenemos nuestra asociación con PBS del Valle. Todos los días entre semana por las mañanas pueden ver a nuestras maestras de las 6:30 -7:30 a.m. compartiendo nuevas lecciones, y usted puede [ver otros episodios anteriores aquí](#). Por último pero sin duda no menos importante, nuestra [Universidad de Padres](#) continúan estando listos para apoyar a nuestros padres a través del aprendizaje de los padres, academias de liderazgo para padres y más.

Este año todavía tendrá sus momentos difíciles, pero la oportunidad de regresar en persona con nuestros estudiantes alimenta mi alma. El aprendizaje es nuestro mayor valor, es lo que mejor hacemos, y ese aprendizaje en-persona de alta calidad es lo que nuestros estudiantes

se merecen. Vamos a trabajar todos juntos para seguir nuestras [pautas de seguridad](#) para asegurarnos de mantener nuestros planteles escolares seguros, saludables y abiertos para que nuestros estudiantes aprendan juntos. Por favor de asegurarse que nuestros estudiantes, el personal, y visitantes completen su [examen de auto salud](#) cada día antes de ir a un plantel del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Fresno, continúen usando esas mascarillas adentro, mantengan su distancia física lo mas posible, y lávense las manos frecuentemente. ¡Sigamos avanzando juntos para lograr nuestro mayor potencial!

Zoo Heev uas tau rov tuaj rau tom Tsev Kawm Ntawv, Kawm Tim Ntsej Tim Muag

Peb rov qab tuaj lawm, #FUSDFamily! Lub hlis tag los peb txais tos peb cov tub ntshais kawm rov qab tuaj kawm puv sijhawm rau peb cov tsev kawm ntawv, kawm tim ntsej tim muag, thiab peb zoo siab heev uas peb tau ua li ntawd. Raws li qhov kev peb tau rov tuaj rau tom tsev kawm ntawv, Kuv xav siv lub sijhawm no los hais txog ib yam tseem ceeb tshiab ntawm Hauv Paus Tsev Kawm Ntawv uas peb tau txais koj los xyaum ua raws – "Peb Saib Kev Kawm Muaj Nqis." ("We Value Learning.") Qhov ntawv yog qhov tseeb tiag uas ua rau peb rov tuaj rau tom tsev kawm ntawv xyoo no, txawm hais tias COVID-19 tseem tsis tau ploj hauv luv zej zog. Peb paub tias peb cov tub ntshais kawm feem ntau yeej kawm tau zoo dua hauv chav nrog nraim lawv cov xibfwb thiab lwm cov tub ntshais kawm, thiab ua tsaug ntau rau cov neeg saib xyuas kev noj qab haus huv uas lawv saib muaj nqis los txhawb nqa peb cov kawm tim ntsej tim muag.

Peb cov tsev kawm ntawv lub zog rau lub sijhawm rau cov thawj hnuv thiab cov thawj as thiv ua tau zoo yam tsis txaus ntseeg kiag li! Saib cov [videos](#) no los ntawm peb cov [tub ntshais kawm thiab cov niam txiv](#), cov [neeg ua haujlwm ntawm tsev kawm ntawv](#), thiab peb cov [neeg ua haujlwm classified](#) qhia txog thawj hnuv. Txoj kev zoo siab uas yeej pom yeej muaj, nyob rau thawj hnuv pib kawm ntawv yeej nyob nrog nraim, thiab cov niam txiv muaj ntau yam kev xav. Peb yeej tsis npog zais – tau nyuaj heev rau peb cov niam txiv txoj kev txiav txim siab rau lub sijhawm kev kab mob kis thoob los ntaus cim rau peb lub zeg zog txuas ntiv. Cov cov coob kuj tau txias txim xa cov menyuum rov mus kawm tom tsev kawm ntawv, peb qhov kev cuv npe rau [eLearn Academy](#) ua ntej hnuv tsev kawm ntawv yuav pib los kuj nce coob leej heev. Txawm tias koj xaiv qhov twg rau koj tsev neeg los thov nco ntsoov tias peb saib txoj kev kawm kom ntxawg thiab zoo muaj nuj nqis thiab yuav koj txoj hauv kev rau ob qho kev kawm txuas mus ntiv.

Txawm hais tias kawm saum huab cua lossis tim ntsej tim muag, peb cog lus tias yuav muab txoj kev qhia zoo thiab kev kawm kom ntxawg thiab kom nws txawj xav toj thiab dav, txawj sib pab sib koom tes, thiab txawj daws teeb meem. Peb yuav tsim cov kev kawm kom muaj kev xyaum tau li qhov muaj peev xwm thiab kom tsom rau kev kawm txhua hnuv nrog nej cov tswv yim tsis tu ncuu. Peb saib kev kawm tseem ceeb tias yog ib qho lom zem, muaj kev sib koom, thiab sib tham – txawm txoj kev kawm. Thiab qhov tseem ceeb tshaj, peb paub tias txhua tus tub ntshais kawm yeej yuav kawm tau thiab peb paub los ntawm txoj kev cia sia thiab muaj lub tswv yim kev xav loj hlob.

Tauj ntxiv rau xyoo no, xav thov kom nej paub hais tias muaj peb nyob no rau cov niam txiv uas muaj kev txhawj xeeb thiab yog muaj dabtsi xav tau kev pab. Koj lub tsev kawm ntawv yeej npaj tau yuav los teb koj cov lus nug thiab muab kev txhawb nqa, thiab koj yuav nrhiav tau lawv cov xov tooj, cov chaw nyob, thiab cov [websites](#) hauv peb qhov [qhia cov tsev kawm ntawv cov npe los nias qhov no](#). Peb los kuj tseem muaj peb qhov [Qoj Koj Lub Hlwb \(Exercise Your Brain webpage\)](#) tso saum huab cua thiab tseem ntxiv cov peev txheej rau koj tau siv nrog koj cov me nyuam kom lawv kawm thaum lawv nyob rau tom tsev thiab! Thiab tsis txhob hnov qab tias peb tseem muaj kev koom tes nrog rau [Valley PBS](#). Txhua tag kis cov hnuv ua haujlwm koj yeej ntshib tau peb cov xibfwb thaum 6:30-7:30 a.m. lub caij sib qhia txog cov kev kawm tshiab, thiab koj yeej [saib cov episodes qub nyob ntawm no](#). Yam tsawg kawg ntawm qhov kawg no, peb cov [Parent University](#) sawv cev los pab txhawb nqa peb cov niam txiv cov kev kawm, niam txiv cov koj kev kawm koj ua, thiab muaj ntau ntxiv.

Xyoo no tseem yuav muaj cov sijhawm uas nyuaj, tiam sis kuj muaj lub hwm tsam uas tau rov tuaj tim ntsej tim muag nrog peb cov tub ntshais kawm ua rau kuv lub siab puv npo. Kev kawm yog yam peb saib muaj nqis tshaj, yog qhov peb ua tau zoo tshaj, thiab kev qhia ntaub ntawm tim ntsej tim muag kom ntxawg thiab zoo yog qhov uas peb cov tub ntshais kawm tsim nyog tau. Los peb sib koom ua raws peb qhov [txheej txheem kev nyab xeeb](#) los xyuas kom paub tias peb cov tsev kawm ntawv nyob nyab xeeb, noj qab nyob zoo thiab qhib rau peb cov tub ntshais kawm ua ke. Thov nco ntsoov kom peb cov tub ntshais kawm, cov neeg ua haujlwm, thiab cov qhua sawv daws [kuaj ntsuam xyuas tus kheej kev noj qab haus huv](#) txhua txhua hnuv ua ntej tuaj mus rau tom Fresno ib cheem tsam ib qho chaw ua haujlwm los yog tsev kawm ntawv, yeej meem looj daim npog ntsej muag thaum nyob rau sab hauv, nyob kom sib nruv deb txhua lub sijhawm ua tau, thiab nquag ntxuav tes. Li no cia peb mus kauj ruam tom ntej ua tau li qhov peev xwb peb ua tau zoo tshaj!



Fresno Unified School District
COVID-19 Daily Self-Health Screening Tool
 Revised: August 27, 2021

Ask the following 3 questions every day before school/work:

3 Questions	Action
<p>1 Do I have any of the following symptoms that are new or worsening?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - fever or chills - cough - shortness of breath or difficulty breathing - fatigue - muscle or body aches - headache - repeated shakings/tremors - new loss of taste or smell - sore throat - congestion or runny nose - nausea or vomiting - diarrhea 	<p>If YES STAY HOME</p>
<p>2 Have I or anyone in my household been confirmed/suspected with COVID-19 in the last 14 days?</p>	<p>If YES STAY HOME</p>
<p>3 Am I unvaccinated or partially vaccinated and been notified that I am a close contact* with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 14 days?</p> <p><small>*This contact is someone who has been within 6 feet of a positive person for 15 minutes or more cumulatively within a 24-hour period.</small></p>	<p>If YES STAY HOME</p>

If a student, employee or essential visitor answers "YES" to any of the above questions, they should:

- Remain home – **DO NOT** go to school/work
- **DO** notify your child's school/employee's department supervisor

DISTRICT ROUNDUP

Design Science Seniors Set Record

At Design Science Middle College High School, a record 55 students earned an associate degree this past year. Design Science, housed at Fresno City College, offers a specialized program that allows students to take college classes.



students selected nationwide for the paid internship. Projects included helping the Boys and Girls Clubs with a school supplies event for students in need in Stockton.



Nelson has to say about leadership in the [Fresno Unified School District Family Leads podcast](#). Nelson's talk is "True Leaders Go Back and Pick up the Pieces."



Hoover Grad in Leader Program

Dakota Vermiliya, a recent graduate of Hoover High School, participated in the Bank of America's eight-week prestigious Student Leader program over the summer. She was among just 300



Edison Hires Softball Coach

Edison High School has hired Eric Baltierra as the Tigers' new girls softball coach. Eric has coached travel softball for the past eight years. Eric was born in Fresno and grew up in Raisin City. He is married with three children.

Podcast Features Superintendent

Hear what Superintendent Bob

Fresno City College

Challenge Yourself & Get Ahead!

Register for short-term classes!
www.fresnocitycollege.edu/shortterm

State Center Community College District