

November 21, 2022



Photo of the Week



Steve's Scholars Community Garden
Rededication November 17

Dates to Know

December 7(see website for time)
[Board of Education](#)

Video of the Week



[Wawona K-8 School Highlight Video](#)

Greetings!

Welcome to Community Zone, an e-newsletter from the Fresno Unified School District featuring news of the district and schools. [Sign up](#) to receive this newsletter every two weeks. Questions? Contact Communications@fresnounified.org.

Community News

Support Fresno Unified Students on Giving Tuesday



Exciting news! Fresno Unified will for the first time participate in Giving Tuesday on November 29, a day set aside to encourage charitable donations nationwide. This is a great opportunity to support the brand-new [Foundation for Fresno Unified Schools](#) during this 24-hour period. [Donate here](#). The goal is to “Choose Us.”

Why give to the Foundation for Fresno Unified Schools?

- The goal is to triple the number of Fresno Unified Scholarships awarded from 70 last year to 210 in 2023
- Nearly 83% of Fresno Unified students are socioeconomically disadvantaged
- Donating to the scholarship fund can change the course of a student’s life forever and is an investment in the future of the entire community as well

Regional Competition

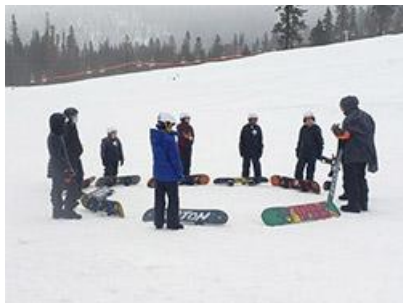
On Giving Tuesday the seven high school regions will compete against each other for most donors per region (not dollars raised). Additionally, an eighth region will be championed by Superintendent Bob Nelson and will be made up of Cambridge, DeWolf, Duncan, Design Science, Fulton, J.E. Young, Patiño, Phoenix and Rata. Support a favorite school and help their region win the competition!

The goal for November 29, 2022: to gain 150 donors per region for a total of 1,200 donors.

Two fun challenges:

- Challenge 1: The first region that reaches the most donors by 11:59 p.m. will earn \$500 towards scholarships for that region.
- Challenge 2: The first region to be given the largest gift of the day by 11:59 p.m. will earn \$500 for that region.

Winter Camp Registration is Open



Registration for Fresno Unified’s FREE winter camps is open! Grades kindergarten through eighth can enjoy camps ranging from drones and aviation, visual arts, winter sports like snowboarding and skiing, and much more. Camps run December 19 through January 6. This year, register by cell phone (make sure contact information is up to date at school). Registration closes November 25.

[Winter Camp Flyer \(in three languages\)](#)

Students get Packs of Books for Home Libraries



To support reading over the upcoming holidays and help students expand their home libraries, the district is partnering with Scholastic to provide more than 100,000 books to students in pre-school through eighth grade. The latest giveaway, the district’s fourth, was highlighted at Greenberg Elementary School on November 14. Students receive a pack of five grade-level appropriate, culturally diverse books that are available in English and Spanish. The pack comes with

a student literacy skills journal and a “Family Guide to Literacy” to help parents support reading at home. The giveaway coincides with National Family Literacy Month. With the latest

disbursement of books, Fresno Unified has partnered with Scholastic to put more than 730,000 books in students' home libraries.

Tokyo Board of Education Visits District Schools

Tokyo's Board of Education visited two schools in Fresno Unified on November 14 to learn more about Fresno Unified's [Personalized Learning Initiative](#) and the district's use of Open Education Analytics. Microsoft encouraged the Tokyo team to visit Fresno Unified as an example of successful use of technology for teaching and learning. The tour of Easterby Elementary School and Yosemite Middle School, among 49 campuses in Fresno Unified participating in the Personalized Learning Initiative, was hosted by the district's Information Technology Department. Tokyo's Board of Education oversees 20,000 teachers and 160,000 students. [Video of Tokyo Board of Education Visit](#)

Native American Heritage Month Educational Series

Academic Decathlon Recruiting Proctors



The Fresno County Academic Decathlon is back in person (after two years as a virtual competition) and is seeking test proctors for the Saturday, February 4 event at Sunnyside High School. Academic Decathlon is one of the most exciting and prestigious scholastic competitions for high school students, featuring mathematics, science, social science, language and literature, visual art, and music.

It takes hundreds of volunteers to ensure the success of the Academic Decathlon. No special educational background, knowledge or experience is needed to serve as a test proctor -- just a willingness to help. All training is provided on the day of the competition. Proctors are needed from 9:45 a.m. to 2:45 p.m., with lunch and snacks provided. This event is coordinated by the Fresno County Office of Education and sponsored by various local businesses. Questions: Gilbert Magallon at Central Unified School District, (559) 274-4700, ext. 63119 or Gmagallon@centralunified.org.

Minnesota Educators Visit District's Hmong Language Pathway Programs

A group of Minnesota educators visited the district's exemplary Hmong dual language immersion programs on November 7 and 8 to gain insight on how to replicate the programs. Fresno Unified designed the programs' entire curriculum with the goal of preserving the Hmong language and culture. The district is the first in the country to design a Hmong program with alignment across elementary, middle and high school and in addition has partnered with Fresno State on a Hmong minor. Because of the district's significant investments in the program, Fresno Unified's Hmong dual language immersion pathway is a model for school districts nationwide. [Link to Video of Visit](#)

Employee Spotlight

Tehipite Principal Helps Families



Tehipite Middle School Principal Marilyn Lopez-Cuevas took action when she learned recently that more than 50 families from her campus were being evicted from their apartment because of a change in landlords. She realized that they needed food and other items, especially for a Thanksgiving meal. She reached out, made calls, and collected food boxes and almost \$1,000 in supermarket gift cards.

Francine and Murray Farber, founders of the Steve's Scholars program at Tehipite, said: "The public needs to know about the compassion for their students and families that principals, faculty and staff bring to our schools, along with teaching the 3Rs. As an example, they should know about the efforts of individuals such as Marilyn Lopez-Cuevas."

CTE Spotlight

Roosevelt Hosts Breakfast with Blue



Various agencies met with students at Roosevelt High School in the [Public Service Pathway](#) on November 17 for Breakfast with Blue, an opportunity to connect with partners during round table discussions and learn from vehicle and technology demonstrations by public service agencies.

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[Volunteer](#)

[Work for Fresno Unified](#)

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