

CUSD Today

MISSION POSSIBLE
Team CUSD Making the Impossible Possible

December 2021

Clovis Unified School District — WHERE CHARACTER COUNTS!

follow us on [facebook](#) [twitter](#) and at [CUSD.COM](#)

CUSD board set to vote on policy changes

■ Bell schedule, dress code proposals online for review, feedback encouraged

Initial findings and draft recommendations for changes to two Clovis Unified policies are available for review online at [cbsd.com](#). The CUSD Governing Board will vote in January on the proposed revisions to school bell schedules and dress code policies.



"We know that these subjects are near and dear to the hearts of our community, and your voice is important in the process to finalize recommendations," said Superintendent Dr. Eimear O'Brien in an email to parents and employees inviting them to review the proposals and share feedback

prior to the Jan. 12 board meeting.

The recommendations are based on feedback gathered from parent, staff and community meetings held at every Clovis Unified school this fall; processing by an internal task force of more than 50 members; and review by Governing Board members in a workshop in November.

School start and stop times are being changed due to new California legislation that requires intermediate and high schools to have later start times effective fall 2022. A change to secondary schools' times, however, means changes to elementary schools since the district's operational supports and transportation are connected. Parents overwhelmingly said if times must change, they preferred elementary schools to start before secondary schools and not after, which is reflected in the proposal.

The district's dress code came under review at the request of Clovis Unified's InterSchool Council and direction from the board earlier this year. Comments and feedback from 117 meetings with stakeholders led to recommendations that would allow for leggings, frayed clothing, more shorts options, camouflage and facial hair in order to reflect current times and clothing available.

To learn more or comment on a feedback form, see <https://www.cbsd.com/BellScheduleDressCodeReview.aspx>.

Best of the Best

Ryan Gettman

Kacey Gibson

Gabriel Hughes

Shareen Crosby

Tammy Williams

15 to receive Clovis Unified's Crystals

After a hiatus year due to the COVID-19 shutdown, Clovis Unified's prestigious Crystal Awards are back. Fifteen teachers, administrators and support staff were surprised with the announcement they are recipients for their extraordinary work during the 2020-21 school year.

A gala awards ceremony will be held in February to honor these men and women who went far beyond their job descriptions out of their own initiative and passion for students and Clovis Unified.

Congratulations to:

- Vanessa Avitabile, Mountain View Elementary sixth grade teacher
- Jennifer Boman, CNEC Activities administrative assistant
- Shareen Crosby, District Risk and Benefits manager
- Kelly Eichmann, Clovis East High CTE Health

Science Pathway teacher

- Leeann Errotabere, Business Services purchasing director
- Sean Ford, CNEC guidance learning specialist
- Ryan Gettman, Bud Rank Elementary principal
- Kacey Gibson, Young Elementary principal
- Gabriel Hughes, Clovis High Area student relations liaison
- Daryl Katoch, Alta Sierra Intermediate learning director
- Kevin Miller, CNEC transition specialist
- Daniel Pearce, Buchanan High CTE Video Production teacher
- Teri Smart, Gateway High school secretary
- Sonna Swiderski, Sierra Outdoor School office supervisor
- Tammy Williams, Miramonte Elementary teacher

Clovis educators win County's top prize

By P.J. Lippert
CUSD Today



Richard Delgado

Sherry Johnson

“They exemplify everything we love about education.”

Barry Jager
CUSD Associate Superintendent, Human Resources



2021 FRESNO COUNTY EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

Richard Delgado

Sherry Johnson

Barry Jager

CUSD Associate Superintendent, Human Resources

"They exemplify everything we love about education," said CUSD Associate Superintendent of Human Resources Barry Jager. "They live out the commitment to our students and schools that make the Clovis Unified team uniquely special."

► Please see *Educators*, Page 9



Clovis East medical career students Celeste Suarez, Paris Della Maggiore and Vaneet Kaur experience varying levels of visual impairments during a unique lesson.

Education teachers of the visually impaired Caitlin Morilla and April Pair visited CTE teacher Kelly Eichmann's classes recently with not only a dynamic presentation, but also with ac-

tivities simulating what it might be like to be visually impaired.

From the start of class, the future medical-career-bound students were blindfolded and guided in, one by one. They had to depend on touch and vocal directions, and once blindfolds were taken off, the group then discussed the experience. "It was definitely a great way to start the class," Pair said.

Students then rotated through stations of activities that included using a Braille cheat sheet to write their names, to read sentences or use Braille Lego blocks to create their own sentences. There was also a vision simulation activity in which students tried on different goggles that replicated different kinds of visual impairments, and an activity to try out handheld and electric magnifiers to assist the visually impaired.

For more student activities happening in CUSD, see Page 7.

She frequently left porch packages on her students' front doors, read them bedtime stories online in pajamas and taught them sign language as they sang songs together. Meet Fresno County's Teacher of the Year and Clovis Unified's Cole Elementary Kindergarten/First-grade combo teacher, Sherri Johnson.

He has been on the Clovis West High campus more than 30 years, guiding and at times disciplining students, but always using an approach firmly grounded in respect and support. He believes in a student's ability often long before the student does. Calling him "tio" (uncle in Spanish) as a sign of their affection and high regard, students past and present said they know Fresno County's Employee of the Year and CW student relations liaison Richard Delgado is al-

ways in their corner.

From among dozens of nominees from school districts all over the county, the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools announced Clovis Unified's Johnson and Delgado as winners of Educator of the Year awards for the 2020-21 school year at a ceremony Nov. 21 broadcast on ABC30.

"They exemplify everything we love about education," said CUSD Associate Superintendent of Human Resources Barry Jager. "They live out the commitment to our students and schools that make the Clovis Unified team uniquely special."

► Please see *Educators*, Page 9

Happy Holidays from Clovis Unified

> Announcements

It's showtime in CUSD!

Who needs Broadway when the amazing talent of Clovis Unified's high school students and their school productions are available right here? Several shows – the culmination of passion, hard work and numerous rehearsals – will be performed in the coming weeks. All health and safety protocols required at the time of shows will be followed. For more information or tickets, visit <https://www.cusd.com/EventsTickets.aspx>.



■ 'Christmas Carol' – Buchanan High's Bear Stage Production is bringing the holiday season to life as they perform "A Christmas Carol." In this mainstage show, the stingy, selfish Ebenezer Scrooge is visited by the spirits of Christmas past, present and future. He is sent on a journey of self-reflection and is challenged to look at how he has treated his employee Bob Cratchit and his family, including Tiny Tim. Remaining performances will be at 2 p.m. Dec. 11 and 7:30 p.m. Dec. 9-11 at the Dan Pessano Theater, 2770 E. International Ave., Fresno. Tickets: \$12 adults, \$10 students/seniors.

■ 'Newsies' – Clovis West High will present the musical "Newsies" in January. The story is set in the late 1800s and follows the tale of charismatic newsboy Jack Kelly and friends who sell newspapers on the streets of New York City. Even though they are children, they lead a strike over unfair conditions. The production will be performed at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 13-15 and 20-22 at the Mercedes Edwards Theatre, 902 Fifth St. Tickets: \$14 adults, \$12 students/seniors.

■ 'You Can't Take It with You' – Clovis North High's Bronco Drama will perform "You Can't Take It with You," in later January and February. The acclaimed comedy spotlights the antics of an engaged couple and their two families who clash in lifestyle and class. Matinees will be held at 2 p.m. Jan. 29 and Feb. 5 at the Dan Pessano Theater, and evening performances at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 27-29 and Feb. 3-5. Tickets: \$12 adults, \$10 students/seniors.

CUSD holiday closures

Clovis Unified schools will be closed Dec. 20 through Jan. 3 for Winter Break. The CUSD District Office at Herndon and Sunnyside avenues will be closed Dec. 24, 25 and Jan. 1.

Home of Hope raises \$87k for Clovis Unified schools

The Foundation for Clovis Schools received \$87,160 for its participation in Granville's Home of Hope event. Funds raised through purchases of tickets entered in a drawing for a brand new home were distributed to several local nonprofits, including the Foundation for Clovis Schools. The foundation is comprised of volunteers who raise money for classroom grants, scholarships, new teacher mini-grants and leadership training. Thank you to the community and all who purchased tickets through the Foundation for Clovis Schools and to Granville for your partnership and

support!

Seasonal concerts at Shaghoian

The Clovis Community Choir will perform Songs of the Season Holiday Concert at 2:30 p.m. Dec. 12 at the Paul Shaghoian Concert Hall, located on the Clovis North Educational Center campus. The concert is free. The Clovis Community Band will hold its free holiday concert at 2:30 p.m. Dec. 19 at the Shaghoian. The choir and concert are part of Clovis Unified's Clovis Community Education program and include local musicians from around the area of various ages.

Details: www.cloviscommunityed.com.

Asbestos management plan in place

In compliance with the Environmental Protection Agency's Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), Clovis Unified is providing written notification of the availability of the 2020-21 school year asbestos management plan for public inspection at each school site and at the district office, 1450 Herndon Ave., Clovis. The management plan includes inspection records as well as documentation of any asbestos removal that has occurred at the site. Arrangements may be made to review these plans by contacting the District's asbestos coordinator, Adam Belmont at 327-9491.

During the past school year, the district conducted two required six-month surveillance AHERA inspections at all sites. This included, inspecting all known asbestos locations and reporting any changes in condition. Additionally, licensed contractors performed asbestos removal work at Pinedale Elementary, Clovis High and Dry Creek Elementary. For each of these projects, the district retained the services of a certified asbestos consulting firm to monitor the work and ensure compliance with all regulations and requirements.

If you have any questions or would like additional information about the district's asbestos program, contact Adam Belmont at the number above.

Leadership conferences

Clovis Unified has opportunities for students to participate in student leadership conferences each year. The district partners with the community in creating these cultural events where students can learn about themselves and one another.

Conferences include keynote speakers and professionals in the community discussing their experiences, answering questions and providing information about college and careers. More information or to sign up for the following is available through secondary school counseling centers.

■ CUSD Transition Student Conference, Jan. 25, at the Clovis Veterans Memorial District

■ Fresno County Superintendent of Schools African American High School Student Leadership Conference, Feb. 1, online

■ CUSD African American Student Leadership Middle

School Conference, Feb. 8, at the Clovis North Educational Center

College financial aid window opens, online workshops ongoing

Seniors planning on attending college in the Fall of 2022 can submit their FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and CADAA (California Dream Act Application) online. The application window closes on March 2, 2022. Through these documents, students can learn if they are eligible for financial aid.

The FAFSA is not just for low income students and should be completed by ALL students planning to attend a community college for either a career certificate or transfer degree and by all students planning to attend a four-year university. The application will also be used for college scholarship information and many student athletes are asked to complete the application.

Schools have been holding online workshops to assist families in completing the FAFSA. Upcoming workshops are on the following dates: Buchanan High, Feb. 15; Clovis High, Dec. 13; Clovis North High, Feb. 22; Clovis West High, Dec. 9 and Feb. 15. Workshops begin at 6 p.m. and links are available through school counseling centers.

The FAFSA online application is available at <https://fafsa.ed.gov>.

Download the app!

Keep connected with all the latest news about Clovis Unified schools by downloading the Clovis Unified app, available through iOS and Android app stores. Available through mobile devices, the app conveniently accesses attendance reporting, lunch menus, school flyers and more.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Online webinars

The following upcoming online webinars will be offered by the CUSD Special Education Department's Family Resource Center. For more information or to inquire about an interpreter, please call 327-8455 or email familyresourcecenter@cusd.com.

■ "Early Childhood: Supporting Families during the Assessment Process," 6 to 8 p.m., Jan. 11, online webinar. Free. Provides both early childhood educators and families with a basic understanding of the assessment process including how to support families during assessment; how to collaborate with the assessment team; and how to advocate for the child. Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/FRC1-11-22>.

■ "Life after High School: Planning for the Future for Students with a Disability," 6:30 to 8 p.m., Jan. 25, online webinar. Free. Learn more about transition planning by age 16 (ITP); preparing for changes that can take place when the child reaches adulthood; options for life after high school; diploma track versus certificate of completion. Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/FRCjan-25-22>.

YOUR HOME OFFICE NEVER LOOKED SO GOOD!



The in-stock selection of Home Office Furniture at Fashion is impressive and surprising. Dozens of desks, credenzas, executive chairs, lateral files, bookcase wall units and more to choose from, with hundreds more to see online at www.FashionFurnitureCo.com.

Fashion Furniture
ACROSS FROM RIVER PARK

255 W. El Paso, Fresno / Behind Bed Bath & Beyond / (559) 440-9600 / M-S: 10-7 / Sun: 11-6 / www.fashionfurnitureco.com

SPORTS

December 2021

CUSD Today

Page 3

Kastner runner wins in national event

Kastner Intermediate cross country runner Cameron Macias won first place in the Middle School XC Nationals held in Louisville, Kentucky in November! The eighth grader beat out 146 other athletes from 14 states, finishing the 4,000-meter course with a time of 14:42.

Cameron started running cross country at Fort Washington Elementary in fourth grade, and this year led her Kastner team and was the CIAL Cross Country League Champion. She nearly broke the Clovis Unified School District record with her championship time of 10:40 in the 3,000-meter course at Woodward Park – only two seconds off the 10:38 record!

"She is a work horse!" said her coach Barbara Bethel-Dorr. "She pushes herself in every workout and is so competitive ... she's also sweet, funny and enjoys her teammates very much."

For the national race,

Cameron continued to train with Coach Bethel-Dorr after the school season ended, and they also studied the differences between courses and weather for Kentucky versus California. It was a longer course than Cameron had raced before and she would have to overcome jet-lag, 30 degree weather and a warmup run in the dark.

"I was excited," she says about nearing the finish line out front, "yet it felt really strange. There was someone with me the whole time as we raced, but with about 600 meters to go, I didn't want her to pass me, so I picked it up a lot!"

The second-place winner finished more than 10-seconds behind Cameron with a 14:53, followed by a runner from Kentucky with a 14:58.

Cameron, who wears a lucky pair of socks and eats avocado toast before her races, said she plans to continue racing in high school with the goal "to set as many



Photo special to CUSD Today.
Kastner Intermediate cross country runner Cameron Macias won first place in the Middle School XC Nationals held in Kentucky.

records as I can."

Said Coach Bethel-Dorr, "Her potential is limitless! I can see her becoming the fastest cross country runner

in the history of my tenure." Bethel-Dorr was Clovis West High's head cross country coach and assistant track coach from 1996-2018.

CE female wrestler earns gold!

Clovis East High freshman wrestler Bella Gonzales represented the United States in the Pan American Games held in Mexico and won the title for her weight class. Having taken to the wrestling mat starting in fourth-grade, Bella has had many successes in the sport that is known more for male wrestlers.

In the Pan Am games, she quickly scored decisive victories in her four matches, walking away with the Gold Medal. In Round 1 she scored a win by fall over Mexico in 15 seconds; Round 2, 10-0 by technical fall over Mexico in 40 seconds; Round 3, 20-0 by technical fall over Guatemala, 34 seconds; Round 4, bye; and Round 5, 10-0 win by technical fall over Peru, 25 seconds.

Said her CE coach Josh Adams, "It was a tremendous and well-earned honor for Bella to put the USA singlet on and compete with the best in the Americas as part of Team USA."



Clovis Unified athletes sign National Letters of Intent

Dozens of senior student athletes in Clovis Unified schools signed National Letters of Intent in November, including soccer stars, baseball talents and several top wrestlers such as Buchanan High twin brothers Michael and Jack Gioffre both heading to the University of Virginia.

Buchanan High

Luke Addington, Water Polo, Concordia University; Max Bernal, Baseball, Cal State Bakersfield; Rylie Chaney, Soccer, Chico State; Kaylee Elliott, Track, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo; Colby Hatton, Swimming, UC Berkley; Michael Gioffre, Wrestling, University of Virginia; Jack Gioffre, Wrestling, University of Virginia; Olivia Koop, Soccer, Nevada Reno; Kyler Lake, Wrestling, Utah Valley; Joseph Martin, Wrestling, Northwestern; Jessica Montelongo, Soccer, Sacramento State; Logan Nidy, Soccer, San Diego State; Jett Ruby, Baseball, Fresno State; Drew Smith, Baseball, Oregon; Sarkis Tookoian, Baseball, University of Mississippi; Evan Wallace, Baseball, UC Irvine; Austin Watson, Baseball, Utah Valley State; Ciara Wilson, Soccer, Fresno State

Clovis East High

Alyssa Bosworth, Soccer, Montana State University, Billings; Paris Dellamaggiore, Softball, Western Washington University; Crysta Duenas, Softball, Lehigh University; Alyssa Everik, Softball, Sterling College; Mackenzie Miller, Swimming, Brigham Young University; Alexis Recinos, Soccer, William Jessup University; Ariana Womack, Cross Country, Fresno Pacific University

Clovis High

Lauryn Carranco, Softball, Cal State Northridge; Sydney Contrestano, Soccer, Cal Poly Pomona; Peyton Machado, Soccer, University of Houston; Mia Sanders, Water Polo, CSU Monterey; Emma Steinhardt, Soccer, Northwestern College Iowa; Elizabeth Zepeda, Soccer, Nicholls State University

Clovis North High

Gianna Bomarito, Cross Country, Sonoma State University; Valerie Boylan, Cross Country/Triathlon, Lenoir-

Rhyme University; Emma Bumatay, Softball, Northwest Nazarene; Tyler Chandler, Wrestling, Cal Poly; Collin Deborde, Baseball, Dakota State University; Cole Fellows, Baseball, Columbia University; Ella Guffey, Swim, Cal State East Bay; Dashiell Hein, Football, Culver Stockton; Myl Laue, Diving, Cal Poly; Mia Mirelez, Soccer, Cal State Fullerton; Amy Payne, Cross Country, Biola University; Renee Phillips, Volleyball, Colorado Christian; Mary Ramirez, Soccer, UNLV; Aidan Tran, Golf, Georgia Tech; Alyssa Wheeler, Soccer, UC Irvine; Cadence Whitley, Soccer, UNLV

Clovis West High

Kalei Aoki-Chance, Track/Cross Country, Cal State Fullerton; Nathan Baeza, Baseball, Fresno State; Kaydence Cortez-Garcia, Soccer, Fresno State; Sydney Gish, Water Polo, San Diego State; Kaleb Latimer, Baseball, Cal State San Bernardino; Gianna Mastro, Tennis, Fresno State; Ainsley Stallworth, Soccer, Carthage College; Emma Willis, Water Polo, Westcliff University

COMMUNITY MEDICAL PROVIDERS
Medical Group
Caring for you and your family

Schedule An Appointment Today!

CMP Clovis
388 Medical Center Drive E. Suite 104
(559) 299-2200

JAY DOWNEY, MD
BOARD CERTIFIED FAMILY MEDICINE

DAVID CAREY, MD
BOARD CERTIFIED FAMILY MEDICINE

Peachwood Medical Group
275 W. Herndon Ave.
(559) 299-2200

CMP Woodward Park
6331 N. Fresno St.
Suite 104
(559) 437-2700

CMP Dizon Medicine
7035 N. Maple Ave.
Suite 102B
(559) 299-2997

CMP West
5715 N. West Ave.
Suite 102
(559) 438-0800

AMITASHA MANN, MD
BOARD CERTIFIED INTERNAL MEDICINE

LILI DARLPY, FNP-C
CERTIFIED FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER

DOMINIC DIZON, MD
BOARD CERTIFIED INTERNAL MEDICINE

AISHA SHAFIQ, MD
BOARD CERTIFIED INTERNAL MEDICINE

GONZALO URBANO, MD
BOARD CERTIFIED INTERNAL MEDICINE

CMP Care Center Pediatrics
1570 E. Herndon Ave.
(559) 437-7300

MERCEDES CHAPA, MD
BOARD CERTIFIED PEDIATRICS

VERONICA RAMIREZ, MD
BOARD CERTIFIED PEDIATRICS

JUDI KROGSTAD, MD
BOARD CERTIFIED PEDIATRICS

JOHN YOUNG, DO
BOARD CERTIFIED PEDIATRICS

CMP Northwest Medical Group
7355 N. Palm Ave. Suite 100
(559) 271-6300

SALVADOR GONZALEZ, MD
BOARD CERTIFIED FAMILY MEDICINE

MARINA ALPER, MD
BOARD CERTIFIED PEDIATRICS

VIVIAN HERNANDEZ, MD
BOARD CERTIFIED PEDIATRICS

JOHN KIM, MD
BOARD CERTIFIED PEDIATRICS

ALISHA BAJWA, DO
BOARD CERTIFIED PEDIATRICS

NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS!

SEE WHY KIDS

Want to Come Back!

California KIDDs
Pediatric Dentistry
CalKidds.com

FIVE LOCATIONS • FRESNO • CLOVIS • REEDLEY

EAR PIERCING

Physician performed with minimal discomfort

- Titanium earrings
- Medical grade
- Nickel free
- Hypoallergenic
- Aseptic Precautions

Anila Thampy, M.D.
SPECTRUM HEALTH MEDICAL SPA
Call (559) 234-2360

Herndon & Chestnut Ave.
7105 N Chestnut Ave #101
Fresno, CA 93720

www.spectrumhealthmedspa.com

Like us on Facebook!

Fall sports district champs

Fall sports came to a close in November after a much-enjoyed return to full-length seasons. Volleyballs smashed, footballs flew and water polo balls splashed across the district as athletes gave their all in league play. The following are the high school Tri-River Athletic Conference (TRAC) and intermediate school Clovis Intermediate Athletic League (CIAL) fall championship teams:

TRAC

Boys Cross Country, Clovis North; Girls Cross Country, Buchanan; Football, Buchanan; Girls Golf, Clovis West; Girls Gymnastics, Clovis West; Girls Tennis, Buchanan and Clovis North (tie); Girls Volleyball, Clovis West; Boys Water Polo, Buchanan; Girls Water Polo, Clovis West

CIAL

Varsity Football, Clark and Alta Sierra (tie), 7th grade, Reyburn; Girls Volleyball, 8th grade, Clark, 7th-grade, Clark; Boys Water Polo, 8th grade, Alta Sierra, 7th grade, Clark; Girls Water Polo, 8th grade, Granite Ridge, 7th grade, Alta Sierra; Girls Tennis, Granite Ridge; Girls Golf, Alta Sierra; Girls Cross Country, Alta Sierra; Boys Cross Country, Alta Sierra.

EDUCATION FOR ALL

Find Your
 **PATHWAY**

Bachelor's Degrees

- 100+ areas of study
- Transfer friendly
- Daytime, evening and online options
- Campuses located throughout the Valley

Graduate Programs

- Master's Degrees
- Professional Certificates

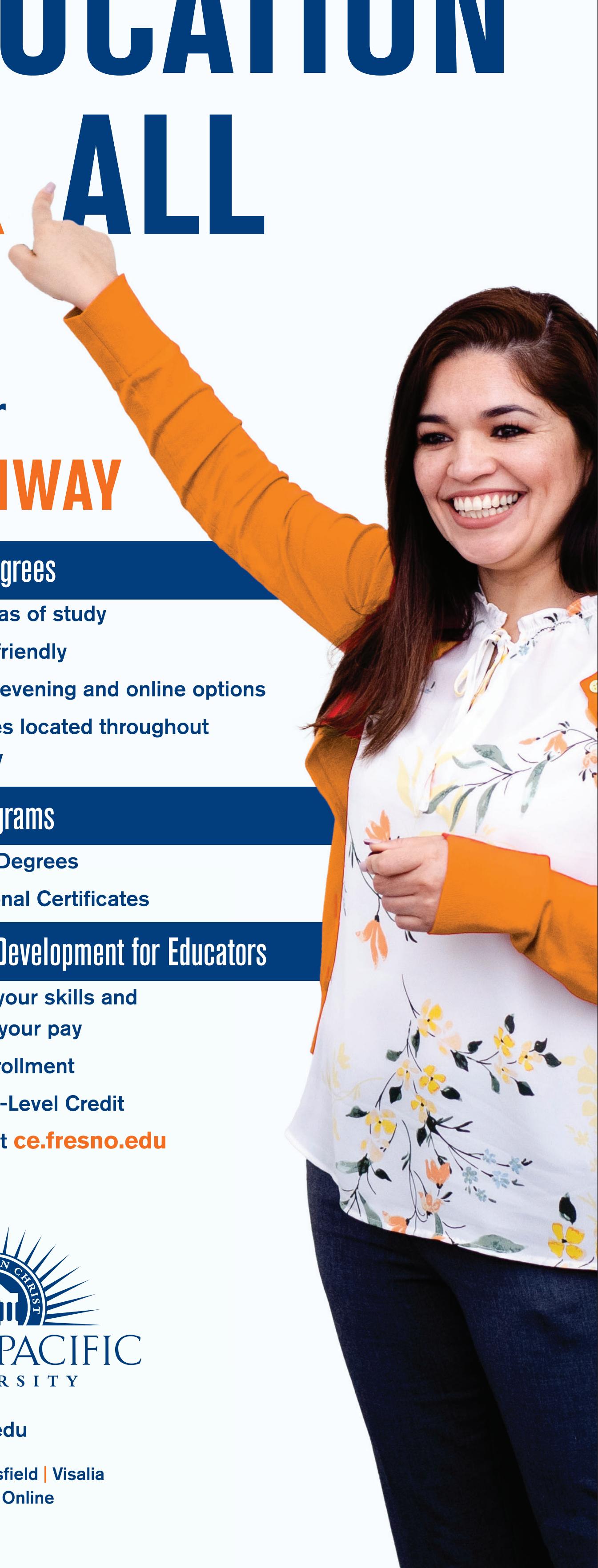
Professional Development for Educators

- Improve your skills and increase your pay
- Open Enrollment
- Graduate-Level Credit
- Explore at ce.fresno.edu



fpu.edu

Fresno | Bakersfield | Visalia
Merced | Online



Moments that unify, uplift are treasures

By Eimear O'Brien, Ed.D.
Superintendent

NEXPECTED moments that lift the soul and the spirit should be treasured like precious gems. They break through the regular rhythms of life to calm your heart, put a smile on your face, and remind you of the purposeful nature of our existence.

Eimear O'Brien,
Ed.D.

Maybe. Invaluable? Absolutely.

One of those moments dropped into a recent meeting of our Governing Board in a completely unexpected and utterly moving way through the words and actions of Clovis North High musician Jason Yang. Jason was present at the meeting with his music director Michael Chang and three fellow students from Clovis North's orchestra to perform one of our first in-person musical numbers since the onset of the pandemic.

While always a welcome treat to see our students share with others whatever they are passionate about (music, choir, academics, art, theater or athletics), this time Jason had a special surprise for his audience, a viola duet he had composed himself for the occasion. The piece itself was beautiful and uplifting, made even more so by Jason's explanation of his creative process and purpose.

Taking the podium, he explained the piece he titled "Harmony" that we were about to hear was composed to reflect his joy as a musician to attend Clovis North and a school district that values music education. The piece, he said, displays his feelings of blessing to be surrounded by teachers who care and students who want to

learn, and it is intentionally organized around three movements. Why three? Because each section, according to Jason, represents one element of Clovis Unified's philosophy of Mind, Body and Spirit, with a final movement bringing the three parts together in a lively and joyful celebration of emotion.

Wow. Jason's words resonated

with me as they embody exactly what we want our students to experience: a team of educators who care about them paired with learning environments that set high standards and provide the tools to achieve those standards.

Having shared his artistic muse, Jason then picked up his viola and with a nod to Mr. Chang, they

launched into a piece that expressed just what he had said it would. From their instruments they evoked joy, excitement, thoughtfulness and energy. As the notes floated through our meeting room, you could feel everyone within ear shot take a deep, cleansing breath; see tension drop; and witness a moment of peacefulness as a result of Jason's

“Unexpected moments that lift the soul and the spirit should be treasured like precious gems.”

Eimear O'Brien, Ed.D.
Superintendent

and Mr. Chang's talent. A precious gem of a moment.

We are living in tumultuous times and as a result, anxiety and frustration have been expressed from multiple sides by those recently attending public meetings of our Governing Board. Around the nation we are seeing school board meetings becoming near battle grounds over how state and national mandates are interpreted and implemented, what curriculum is and isn't in place in class, and other crossroads of parenting and education. In Clovis Unified, we remain committed to listen and model respectful discourse, and in the end, strive to put the best interest of ALL of our students at the heart of our decision-making.

Jason's music and words, and the later performance with fellow musicians, violinists Daniel Hwang and Candria Kim, and cellist Nicole Chien, was a reminder of the importance of keeping our kids at our heart. As the calendar year draws to a close and we prepare to welcome 2022, it is my hope that in the coming year we find more moments like that provided by Jason and the power of shared appreciation for beauty and art. These experiences have a way of creating common ground among us all.

When the strains of his composition ended, Jason received a standing ovation, and I got one of those moments to treasure for a lifetime.

LESSONS

Inspirations by, for and from our CUSD students



Special to CUSD Today

Clovis North sophomore Jason Yang and Clovis North Orchestra director Michael Chang played the music Jason wrote himself at a recent Governing Board meeting. Titled "Harmony," the piece is a tribute to Clovis Unified, with sections representing the district's philosophy of mind, body and spirit. Enjoy their moving performance online at cbsd.com/Harmony.

“It is the special province of music to move the heart.”

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

Clovis Unified students share ‘The American Dream’

EDITOR'S NOTE: Congratulations to several Clovis Unified students who placed in the Clovis Veterans Memorial District's Annual Veterans Day Essay Contest. The theme this year was "1776: The American Dream." Excerpts from some of the winning narratives are below:

Sophie Bishop, Alta Sierra Intermediate, Grand Prize Champion

As I stare at the aged, beloved pillow on my bed, I think back to when my father gave it to me just days before leaving my mother and I on a 9-month deployment.... The American Dream is kept alive through the hard work and ambition of countless generations of American citizens, and no group has contributed more than the men and women who have served in the Armed Forces. Their sacrifice continues to inspire future generations of Americans.

...Accomplishing the American Dream takes dedication and hard work, but Americans must share many responsibilities in order for every generation to realize the American dream. People have to treat others equally and they must work hard and have goals to achieve their American Dream.... My family is an example of endeavoring to live the American Dream. My parents were both the first in their family to be college educated. They worked very hard to get to where they are now. My mother was born in South Korea and moved to the United States when she was 2. When she was younger, she took care of her younger sister and worked hard to get good grades in school. When she graduated high school, she got a Navy scholarship and eventually became a Naval Officer. She devoted herself to school to be able to get a good job. Now, many years later, her hard work has paid off. She is retired, has a good family life, and is living the American dream. The American Dream is still accomplishable and can be achieved by anyone with hard work and commitment....

Amanda Moreno, Reyburn Intermediate, 1st Place/7th Grade

...What is the American Dream? Well, the proper definition is, “the ideal by which equality of opportunity is available to

any American, allowing the highest aspirations and goals to be achieved.” What does this mean? Well, basically, this definition means that the American Dream will allow equal opportunities for all Americans, allowing them to achieve their own personal hopes, dreams, and prosperity. Not everyone will have the same visual picture at the words American Dream. That means the definition can vary from person to person. You might not know what your American dream is yet, and that's OK. For example, one American Dream may be a nice home, car, family, and having a good quantity of money. Another example could be something as simple as pure happiness. An American Dream can be anything that is desired or wished by an American citizen.

No one is born a good citizen. We have to become one, but how do we do that? There are many things we can do to become a good citizen, including participating in elections, following laws, showing respect to everyone and being honest and faithful. As a good citizen you should also keep in mind the generations that will come after you....

Jocelyn Hanson, Kastner Intermediate, 2nd Place/7th Grade

...Long ago, America was owned by the colonists. The hardships in this time caused the American Dream to emerge. Families and hard-working men started getting hard-hitting taxes in 1765. On March 22, 1765, the British Parliament passed the "Stamp Act" to help pay for British troops stationed in the colonies during the Seven Years' War. The Stamp Act was the first cause of the American Dream, thinking of freedom and liberty. While the definition of the American Dream has changed over time, the ideals and values originated from the colonists fighting for freedom and independence from the British Parliament....

Valery Liang, Alta Sierra, 2nd Place/8th Grade

Every year, more than one million immigrants arrive in the United States—for freedom, for opportunity, for refuge, for hopes and dreams and whispers of half-forgotten wishes that once seemed like stars, cold and distant and unreachable. They

come from every corner of the globe, nearly a quarter of them unauthorized. Twenty-eight % from Asia, 25% from Mexico, 13% from Europe, Canada, and other North American countries – and all of them, in the end, seeking much the same thing: possibility of a better world. A possibility that was created on July 4th, 1776, when the Founding Fathers signed the Declaration of Independence, the start of the American Dream, a hope of freedom and greatness, something new and bright and imperfect, something that still stands and changes today, and something that people continue to risk their lives to protect and gain....

Taryn Malan, Alta Sierra, Honorable Mention

Although the "American Dream" didn't have a label in 1776, it was an idea of freedom that the Founding Fathers decided to make a reality by creating the Declaration of Independence. The document was a sign of hope to the colonists looking for a land of opportunity. This is why they fought for the ideals outlined in this manuscript and it's why since then our nation has fought against others and amongst ourselves to preserve the freedoms our country offers. Today, it is the duty of every US citizen to respect and remember the sacrifice the colonists made, and the ones veterans today make, to protect America's freedom....

Amalia Ashton, Alta Sierra, Honorable Mention

...The American dream isn't just a dream. It's something people outside of America really hope and wish for. All of us are lucky to be born into or instated as an American citizen without having to fight for our basic freedoms. In America we have rights that other countries don't. We drink clean water from a faucet; in other places people have to walk to a well to fetch dirty water for their families. America is a place where people seek shelter from around the world. It's where people can reach goals they never would have imagined. Many women dream of having their opinion heard. Some children want to have a steady supply of food. Families desire to have a different religion than the one that has been forced. But when you're an American you're saying, I am here for freedom and the respect of my rights....

— ABOUT US —

CUSD Today Staff

Publishing & Editorial
Clovis Unified School District
1450 Herndon Avenue
Clovis, CA 93611

Telephone (559) 327-9094

Fax (559) 327-2957

cusdtoday@cusd.com

Kelly Avants, APR

Chief Communications Officer

327-9092

Patti J. Lippert

Managing Editor

327-9094

Nancy Porter

Advertising Specialist

327-9095

Verna Garcia

Graphic Designer

CUSD Governing Board Members

Steven G. Fogg, M.D.
President
269-7000

Susan Hatmaker
Vice President
288-2743

Tiffany Stoker Madsen
Clerk
392-1014

Hugh H. Awtrey

437-6580

David DeFrank

327-9000

Yolanda Moore

327-9000

CUSD Administration

Eimear O'Brien, Ed.D.
Superintendent
327-9100

Norm Anderson
Deputy Superintendent
327-9107

Robyn Castillo, Ed.D.
Associate Superintendent
Instructional Services
327-9373

Corrine Folmer, Ed.D.
Associate Superintendent
School Leadership
327-9350

Barry Jager
Associate Superintendent
Human Resources and Employee Relations
327-9308

Michael Johnston
Associate Superintendent
Administrative Services
327-9110

CUSD Today, Clovis Unified's good news publication, is sent directly to the homes of all CUSD parents and staff, as well as district supporters. In an effort to unify the CUSD community, the newspaper highlights the achievements of Clovis Unified students and staff; profiles new and updated Governing Board policies; and shares general news and information happening within the district.

Circulation: 34,000.

Funding: All costs associated with producing, printing and mailing *CUSD Today* are entirely funded by our advertisers. To show your appreciation of their support, we ask you to consider patronizing these businesses and services as the need arises.

Story submissions: Please submit all ideas to the Site Coordinator at your school. Please contact your school to find out who your Site Coordinator is. Editorial deadlines are two weeks before the publication date. We do our best to include as many submissions in each issue as our editorial space will allow.

Wellness programs receive grants from Foundation

By Nancy Porter
Foundation for Clovis Schools

The Foundation for Clovis Schools awarded recently four grants totaling more than \$30,000 that focus on supporting emotional and social wellness efforts for students on Clovis Unified campuses. Funding for the grants came in

part through a partnership with Kaiser Permanente.

"The Foundation funds many grants for innovative, academic classroom programs, but we know it is also vital that funds are available to assist with the overall wellness and emotional health of students. We are honored to partner with Kaiser Permanente to make these grants available," said Foundation Chairperson Mike Fennacy.

A call for grant applications was sent out earlier this year, and recipients were determined by a committee that selected the following to be funded for the 2021-22 year.

■ "Hope Squad," piloted by Clovis North Educational Center, trains students to recognize and identify suicide warning signs in their peers in order to refer them to help on campus. Julie Barrett, district Mental Health Support Provider, said there has been positive participation from parents and students. Parent meetings and student trainings will continue throughout the school year.

■ "Adapted PE Peer Tutoring" at the Reagan Educational Center develops leadership skills in students enrolled in



Photo special to CUSD Today.
Aliya Madrid and Brayden Lehnick, students in Clovis East High's Lauren Sewell's Unified Physical Education class, play basketball.

Unified Physical Education, a program that pairs special needs students with other student athletes (peers) in a sports setting. Lauren Sewell, Clovis East PE teacher, said the classes are very rewarding.

"The class structure and purpose has fostered connections and personal growth for every student involved. When we see a legally blind student driven by his competitive spirit pull his peer with his lead in a race, or a peer who struggles with communicating encourage their athlete to push past their comfort zone, we know this is a class that has

exponential value," she said of the program now underway.

■ "Flexible Seating to Promote Social Emotional Development" at Tarpey Elementary has a direct impact on students' learning environment. The goal is to develop autonomy and freedom of choice in the classroom, creating seating arrangements that foster collaboration and engagement, and encouraging more physical movement and improved focus.

■ "Virtual Sand Tray" offers a powerful therapeutic tool to students throughout the district by trained therapists. Traditional sand tray therapy is used for therapeutic expression, emotional processing, and social emotional skill development but it does require a designated school space for the equipment, a large sand filled box with several miniature objects. The Virtual Sand Tray, funded by the Foundation grant, brings sand tray therapy in a digital format to students who may have tactile sensitivities. It offers access to 5,000 models to place in the sand, the ability to save trays between sessions, and special effects and animation.

The Foundation for Clovis Schools also awarded 14 Classroom Grants for this school year that were profiled in the September issue of CUSD Today. The Foundation is a nonprofit organization run by volunteers that was established in 1986 to encourage Clovis Unified students toward continuous academic personal achievement by providing funding for innovative classroom ideas and educational programs. Learn more at FoundationForClovisSchools.com

Clovis Unified FFA students win awards at 2021 Big Fresno Fair

By JoAnna Flynn
Special to CUSD Today

One-hundred-and-ten Clovis FFA students from Clovis Unified's McFarlane-Coffman Ag Center at Clovis East High put on their trademark white pants and navy jackets to participate in the Big Fresno Fair. Around 25% of them walked away with high honors.

Clovis FFA students raise everything from goats and cows to chickens and pigs. Students invest several hours each day for up to 11 months a year tending to the animals that they will show at the fair. But there is a lot more involved than just animal care.

Jennifer Knight, the ag director at Clovis East, said the rigor and attention required to prepare for exhibiting at the fair develops student's

body, mind and spirit. FFA students are taught to track their finances, hours and projects through an online platform used by FFA members across the nation. In addition, students who participate in the fair must also develop marketing and presentation skills for showing and selling their animals.

But why would they come to the dusty fairground barn dressed in white pants? It's the most common question they are asked.

"White pants are worn as a symbol of cleanliness. The animals [our students] show are so clean that our white pants don't even get dirty while exhibiting them," Knight said.

Congratulations to all the participating Clovis FFA students and to the following

who placed in events:

■ **Goats:** Chase Gann, Supreme Champion Market Goat, 1st Place Freshmen/Sophomore Goat Showmanship and 3rd Place Round Robin Master Showmanship; Sadie Keller, Reserve Champion FFA Market Goat.

■ **Poultry:** Patrick Palmer, 1st Place Novice Poultry Showmanship; Haylie Metler, Reserve Champion Market Chickens.

■ **Sheep:** Ryan Hayashi, Reserve Champion Bred By Exhibitor Market Lamb; Laurel Machoian, Champion of Excellence Belt Buckle Award for Sheep

■ **Swine:** Naomi Finley, Reserve Grand Champion Purebred Gilt; 1st place Junior/Senior/Graduate Swine Showmanship, 3rd Place Round Robin Master Showmanship;

John Fisher, Reserve Champion Hampshire Market Hog; Ashlyn White, 1st place Freshmen/Sophomore Swine Showmanship, 2nd Place Round Robin Master Showmanship.

■ **Cattle:** Joe Fulbright, Champion Bred By Exhibitor Market Steer, Champion Barnyard Olympics Team, 1st Place Large Ag Mechanics Project for a Custom Truck Bed with Crane; Cambria Cook, Reserve Champion Breeding Heifer,

1st Place Freshmen/Sophomore Beef Showmanship, 1st Place Round Robin Master Showmanship; Maddy Henson, Supreme Champion Market Steer, 1st place Junior/Senior/Graduate Beef Showmanship, 1st place Round Robin Master Showmanship.

■ **Rabbits:** Davika Perez, 1st place Novice Rabbit Showmanship, Reserve Champion Pen of 3 Market Rabbits; Atticus Wilson, Grand Champion Pen of 3 Market Rabbits; Raevyn Murillo, Champion Breeding Californian Rabbit.

dan Miller, Joe Fulbright – 1st Place Medium Ag Mechanics Project for their BBQ Trailer; Samiya Nobel, Ella Cline, Bailey Sisterson, Emily Boam, Kayley Ruff, Kadence Pasnick – 1st Place Floral Arrangements; Erika Nyberg- Best of Show Floral Arrangement.

Visual Art Winners

Clovis Unified student artists entered many of their works in the Big Fresno Fair Phyllis Johnson Art Awards Contest. The following students placed first in their respective categories:

- Drawing – colored pencil: Ayla Killion, Clovis North
- Drawing – pen and ink: Lindsay Erese, Clovis East
- Ceramic Sculpture: Cassandra Gutierrez, Clovis West
- Ceramic Pottery: Evan Liang, Clovis High
- Photography – Altered: Bryn Garner, Clovis High
- Three Dimensional: Kadyn Giffyn Pulsipher
- Intermediate Best of Show: Jorgia Drake, Clark Intermediate



Clovis Community College

High School Seniors: Apply Now for Fall 2022

Visit www.cloviscollege.edu/outreach to:

- ✓ View upcoming workshops at CUSD high schools
- ✓ Join Virtual Help Sessions via Zoom every T/W/Th from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.
- ✓ Make an appointment with your Outreach Specialist



Check out our "How to" videos on YouTube -

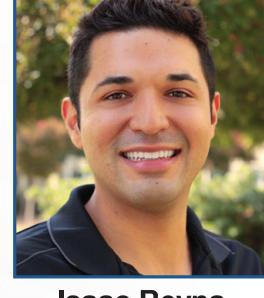
Clovis Community College: Welcome Center



We Are Here to Help!



David-Anthony Navarro
Schools: Clovis West, Clovis Online,
Enterprise, Gateway
559-325-5267
david.navarro@cloviscollege.edu



Isaac Reyna
Schools: Clovis East
559-325-5357
isaac.reyna@cloviscollege.edu



Amy Yocupicio
Schools: Clovis North,
Clovis High, and Buchanan
559-325-5035
amy.yocupicio@cloviscollege.edu

AROUND THE DISTRICT

December 2021

CUSD Today

Page 7

Great Patriot effort



Photo special to CUSD Today.

Gettysburg Elementary student Abigail Dalgado wanted to make a difference during the pandemic, and so on her own, she began a book drive for her school library. Family and friends supported her idea, and at the end of the school year, Abigail presented 34 brand new books to her teacher Daniella Parra. Some will stay in the classroom and others will become part of the school library's collection.

CE ag teams win events

Clovis East High's Horse Judging team, coached by Emily Benson, placed first in the state California FFA Light Horse Evaluation Career Development Event and will be invited to nationals in Indianapolis, Indiana, this fall with Sydney Loucks, Taylor Brown and Heather Prater earning high individual awards. The Clovis East Meats team, coached by Jennifer Knight, placed fourth overall with Devin Majors and Layla Hernandez earning high individual awards. The Vet Science team, also coached by Knight, placed second overall with Katie Kalocsai earning third highest individual.

CN Women's Chorale selected

Clovis North Women's Chorale was recently invited to participate in the prestigious Western Region American Choral Directors Association in Long Beach in February. This is an invitation-only concert. Additionally, the Clovis North Women's Chorale was also invited to perform at the California All-State Music Education Conference in February.

"Both invitations are a tremendous honor



Photo special to CUSD Today.
Best of Show went to Fugman Elementary sixth-grader Samantha Levine for her drawing of the writing of the Declaration of Independence.

Veterans Day Art Contest winners

Congratulations to several Clovis Unified young artists who earned top places in the annual Clovis Veterans Memorial District Art Contest that this year had the theme of "1776 – The American Dream."

Best of Show went to Fugman Elementary sixth-grader Samantha Levine for her drawing of the writing of the Declaration of Independence.

Other place winners from Clovis Unified for their grade level are:

Kindergarten: Nash Garcia, Lincoln Elementary, second place

First grade: Barrett Fukushima, Riverview Elementary, first place; Ivey Hernandez, Fort Washington Elementary, second place

Second grade: Liliana Hix, Freedom Elementary, first place; Chelsea Park, Fugman, second place

Third grade: Kiersten Borba, Lincoln Elementary, first place

and a tribute to the hard work by our students and our director, Mrs. Heather Bishop," said Clovis North Principal Joshua Shapiro, Ed.D.

Firefighters enjoy Bud Rank artwork

Bud Rank Elementary first graders made thank you pictures for firefighters working on the KNP Complex fire in the nearby Sequoia National Park. Incident Commander John Goss' son Michael is a first grader at Bud Rank and daughter Gabriella is in fifth grade. During a visit home, Michael gave his dad the pictures his classmates had made, and he took them back with him to the Orange Cove basecamp. Firefighters en-

joyed the colorings and put them up around the camp and on the front of the daily Incident Action Plan that was seen by about 400 people.

Order in the Court!

Clovis Elementary third-grade students recently had a special visitor on campus, Fresno County Superior Court Judge William Terrence. It's his third year sharing a slide show and discussion about the local judicial process. He began with slides of the downtown Fresno Courthouse and his courtroom. He included pictures of the jury box, a group photo of all 44 Fresno County judges, and he even brought his gavel to show the students.

Judge Terrence then engaged students in

an activity. He presented the students with a "new law" and then proposed cases that could potentially violate that law. Students decided whether each case was a violation of the law.

New member of class

Clovis Unified teachers and students have gotten creative with their new standalone HEPA filters. Many classes have decorated or dressed up their new bipolar ionization units to add personality and fun to the classroom. Thanks to the passing of Measure A in November 2020, Clovis Unified was able to provide an OptiClean Air Scrubber unit for every classroom, library, multi-purpose room and gymnasium across the district.

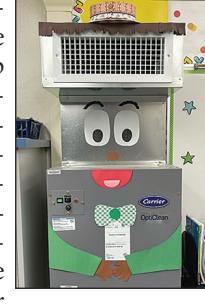


Photo special to CUSD Today
By the bench are coworkers Kendra Pfalzgraff, Russell Halterman and Christina Foster.

'Blackbird Fly' at Red Bank

In October, beloved Red Bank Elementary teacher Mr. Rod Marvin who passed away in 2019 was honored by staff, retirees and the community with a special ceremony that included the dedication of a bench on campus.

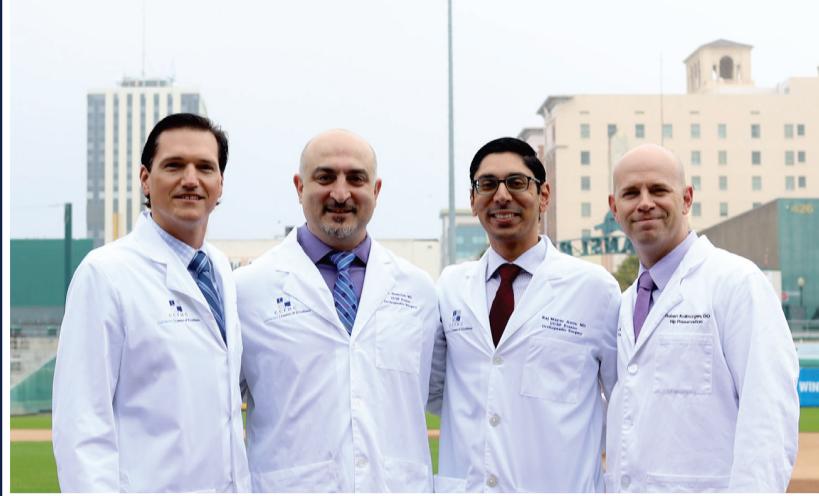
Just steps from his former classroom, the bench has a small painting from eighth-grade artist Isabella Avery, along with the words, "Blackbird Fly," a tribute to Mr. Marvin's longtime love of The Beatles.

The ceremony also included shared memories by coworkers and presentation to Mr. Marvin's family a 2019-20 Red Bank yearbook that was dedicated to Mr. Marvin.

University Orthopaedic Associates

In affiliation with UCSF Fresno

Hip and Knee Center at University Orthopaedic Associates



Geoffrey Rohlwing, DO, Arbi Nazarian, MD, Raj Amin, MD, Robert Kollmorgen, DO

Specializing in hip preservation, hip and knee arthroscopy, arthritis care, and joint replacement and revisions.

Call for an appointment today!

559.320.0531



University Orthopaedic Associates

604 N Magnolia Avenue, Suite 100

Clovis, CA 93611

559.320.0531 Phone

559.320.0539 Fax

UniversityMDS.info/ortho



Does your child or teen suffer from moderate or severe migraine?

Now enrolling: a clinical study to evaluate the safety and efficacy of a dissolving tablet called rimegepant in children and teens 6 to 17 years old with moderate or severe migraine. Rimegepant is approved by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the acute treatment of migraine in adults.

To be eligible for this study, participants must:

- Be 6 to 17 years old
- Have a history of migraine for 6 months or longer
- Have a history of 1 to 8 moderate or severe migraine attacks (lasting more than 3 hours without treatment) per month during the past 2 months
- Be able to understand the assent form and have parent(s)/caregiver(s) who can give informed consent

This is not a complete list of study requirements. The study doctor will review all requirements with you and your child or teen.

To learn more about this study, contact:

Perminder Bhatia, MD
Neuro-Pain Medical Center
736 E Bullard Ave, Suite 101
Fresno CA
(559) 437-9700
research@europain.com



biohaven
pharmaceuticals

BHV3000-311

Brighten Academy Preschool

Academic enrichment programs which also foster social, emotional, and physical development.

Offering care for children ages 2-6 years.

Half-day and full-day programs.

Assessment-driven, specialized instruction based on California State Kindergarten standards.

Interactive/Responsive Care focusing on crucial brain stimulation and development.

Nurturing and loving staff.



www.brightenacademypreschool.com

Careers launch from CTE Clovis experience

By Karen M. Boone
CTE Learning Director

The mission of California's Career Technical Education (CTE) is to integrate core academic knowledge with technical and occupational knowledge to provide students with a pathway to postsecondary education and careers. Many of our Clovis Unified graduates are enjoying careers that began when they enrolled in a Clovis Unified CTE course. Here's a sampling of just a few:

■ **Teachers:** All five of the district's comprehensive high schools offer the CTE Education Pathway for those interested in becoming educators. Quite a few of our current CUSD teachers began their professional education in our Careers in Education class. Sara Hanson, who teaches the Buchanan High class, currently has three former students employed



Photo Special to CUSD Today.

Former student Alex Tacescu earned his master's degree in Robotics Engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and works as a Flight Operations Software Engineer at SpaceX.

as teachers in the district: Dara Ramirez at Garfield Elementary, Gabby Hart at Woods Elementary and Daniella Parra at Gettysburg Elementary. "I had the opportunity to observe a teacher during instruction as well as talk to her about other duties the job requires. I enjoyed

working with the students, learning about classroom management, grading papers, and creating bulletin boards," Ramirez said of her time as a high school student in the Education Pathway program.

■ **Bankers:** In 2016 the Educational Employees Credit Union opened a full-service branch on the Clovis West High campus as part of the Financial Services CTE Pathway. Since its opening, the branch has been staffed by Clovis Unified student tellers. Thirty-one of those EECU-trained tellers have been hired in part-time or full-time positions at Valley EECU branches. CUSD graduate Lionel Gutierrez was named EECU's Employee of the Month in November 2020.

■ **Space X Engineer:** Mary Allen teaches the Software and Systems Development Pathway at Clovis North High. Former student Alex Tacescu was in the first class of that pathway, and instrumental in getting Clovis North's Robotics team started. In June of this year, Alex earned his master's degree in Robotics Engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and is now working as a Flight Operations Software Engineer at SpaceX!

■ **Tesla Employees:** Former Clovis West Automotive CTE Pathway student Paul Fowler was hired by Tesla in the fall of 2020 for an entry-level position right out of high school. A few months later, in December 2020, he was recognized by Tesla as an Employee of the Month. Most recently, two of Paul's former Clovis West Automotive classmates, Cristobal Ramirez and Chris Jurado, have joined him as full-time employees of Tesla.

■ **Electrician:** Alondra Mora, a current employee of Western Electrical Contractors Association, Inc. (WECA), began her career as a student in Jay Eichmann's class in the Residential and Commercial Construction CTE Pathway at Clovis High. She took Eichmann's construction class as a junior and continued her education as a senior in Eichmann's Electronic Systems course. After graduation, Alondra enrolled in WECA's Apprenticeship program with subcontractor Sebastian. Alondra recalls her CTE class as a place where "there

was always something new to learn" and "it motivated me to go to school the next day."

■ **Disney Operations:** Noah Morgan, a Clovis West High graduate, works at the "Happiest Place on Earth" – Disneyland. Noah began his career with Disney right after high school and continued to work there while he earned his bachelor's degree. He is currently working towards a management position in Disney Operations at the resort. He said his Performing Arts and Theater Production CTE classes gave him the opportunity to learn how to simultaneously hold a job with projects and deadlines as well as pursue his education.

Students interested in getting a jump start on their careers are encouraged to talk with their school counselors about CTE pathways offered or visit <https://www.cusd.com/CareerTechnicalEducation.aspx>.

*In the Spotlight:
CTE SUCCESS STORIES - GRADUATES!
QUICK FACTS:
■ 21 CTE Pathways in CUSD
■ CTE courses at all five CUSD high schools
■ Explore the options at CTE Night at 6 p.m. Jan. 26 at Clovis Veterans Memorial Building
■ Enroll for Fall 2022 during spring registration*

Are 529 plans all what they're cracked up to be?

Free Educational College and Financial Aid Webinar
for parents with college bound students of all ages
Tuesday, Dec. 14, 2021 | 6:30-7:45 p.m.
or
Thursday, Dec. 16, 2021 | 6:30-7:45 p.m.
[Register online](#)

COLLEGEPLANNINGFRESNO.COM

College Planning Fresno is a 501c (3) organization. (559) 307-6103
Scott J. Karl is an Investment Advisor Representative of Guardian Pointe Private Wealth Management
Headquartered at 1024 N. Grand River Ave., Brighton, MI 48116. College Planning Services
Headquartered at 7321 N. Tamera Ave., Fresno, CA 93711, and Guardian Pointe Private Wealth
Management are separate entities and are not affiliated. CA Insurance Lic # 0815354



Keeping kids healthy and happy!



Menouchehr Bazyani, M.D.
Pediatrician

- ✓ Pediatric Primary Care ✓ Immunizations
- ✓ Children Physicals ✓ Health Education

Schedule your appointment at our:
Clovis Health Center
2497 East Herndon Avenue, Suite 103,
Clovis, CA 93611

800.492.4227 unitedhealthcenters.org

REGISTER ONLINE TODAY!



**2021-2022
REGISTRATION**

**HIGH QUALITY
PRESCHOOL
PROGRAMS**

**NO COST TO
QUALIFIED
FAMILIES**
**AM & PM
CLASSES
AVAILABLE**



GO TO CUSD.COM SCHOOLS > PROGRAMS > PRESCHOOL

CALL 327-9180 FOR MORE INFORMATION



Same Day Appointments Available

San Joaquin Health Center
21890 W. Colorado Ave
San Joaquin, CA 93660
559.693.2462

Kerman Health Center
449 S. Madera Ave
Kerman, CA 93630
559.364.2970

Kerman Dental Center /
Valley Optometric Center
942 S. Madera Ave
Kerman, CA 93630
559.364.2980

Sablan Health Center
927 S. Street
Firebaugh, CA 93622
559.659.3037

Clovis Community Health Center
180 W. Shaw Ave, Suite B
Clovis, CA 93612
559.203.6600

Kingsburg Community Health Center
1250 Smith Street
Kingsburg, CA 93631
559.326.5320

Dinuba Community Health Center
888 N. Alta Ave
Dinuba, CA 93618
559.595.1000

Bishop Community Health Center
459 V Line Street, Suite C
Bishop, CA 93514
760.784.7020

Central Fresno Community Health Center
4711 W. Ashlan Ave
Fresno, CA 93722
559.203.6600

Kerman Unified School District Community Health Center
702 S. Eighth Street
Kerman, CA 93630
559.364.2975

Golden Plains Unified School District Community Health Center
6171 S. Daniels Ave
Tranquility, CA 93668
559.364.2984

**COVID-19
Testing,
Vaccinations, &
Post COVID-19
Care**

VHT.ORG

Hablamos Español

CALL TODAY!

CHILDHOOD AWAITST! see for yourself

CHILDHood AWAITST! see for yourself

(559) 324-7946 www.americaskidsinmotion.com

1205 N. Willow (Willow/Nees) Clovis, CA

AMERICA'S KIDS IN MOTION

New principal appointed for Fancher Creek

■ School psychologists celebrated in November

By Kelly Avants
CUSD Chief Communications Officer

Nov. 10

The melodic sounds of Clovis North High's String Quartet kicked off the Nov. 10 meeting of the Governing Board, as students performed live under the direction of Michael Chang. The musicians are in the midst of their performance season and represented the thousands of students who perform in the district's choirs, marching bands, orchestras, jazz band and other performing arts groups.

In addition to their performance of "String Quartet No. 2 in D Major," violist Jason Yang performed his original composition "Harmony," a duet for two violas, with Director Chang that he said celebrated Clovis Unified's philosophy of mind, body

and spirit.

At the meeting, the board announced the appointment of Carisa Cordova from learning director at the Reagan Educational Center to the position of Fancher Creek Elementary Principal. Cordova will assume the role in January after the departure of the school's current principal for a position with the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools.

In other action, the board:

- Approved all conference requests, student trips, fundraiser requests, meeting minutes, change orders and voluntary community recreation programs as submitted.

- Accepted a written report summarizing the results of student assessments administered during the 2020-21 school year.

- Held a public hearing and later approved a resolution related to an energy services agreement with Trane U.S. Inc. to complete energy efficiency projects.

- Heard an update on COVID-19 mitigation that

► BOARD BRIEFS

included confirmation that California has not yet implemented any mandates for youth or employee vaccination, CIF updates that now allow a testing alternative to masking student athletes playing indoor volleyball or basketball games, and the Oct. 20 update from the California Department of Public Health continuing its existing COVID-19 safety protocols for schools.

- Awarded construction bids for the aluminum storefront at Clovis West High School's career technical program and the replacement of a school bus CNG tank.

- Approved an addendum to the CART Operating Agreement for a student furniture replacement project.

- Awarded a bid for the salary schedule market study to Koff & Associates.

- Approved a resolution declaring the District's intent to convey a public utility easement to Pacific Gas and Elec-

tric as part of the career technical education project at Clovis East High School.

Oct. 20

Clovis Unified's close to 75 school psychologists were honored for the important role they play in all students' success during the Oct. 20 district Governing Board Meeting. Recognizing this team of high performing professionals was part of the district's declaration of Nov. 8-12 as National School Psychologists Week.

Associate Superintendent of School Leadership Corrine Folmer, Ed.D., and Associate Superintendent of Human Resources and Employee Relations Barry Jager gave an update on the district's continued work to navigate the pandemic. Included in their report were updates on:

- This implementation of the state's required COVID-19 vaccine verification/testing for educational employees.

■ The as-of-yet unclarified status of exemptions to the Governor's direction that COVID vaccination will be added by the California Department of Public Health to other vaccines required for school attendance when fully approved by the FDA.

A discussion was held about the timeline for schools to learn more about California's processes for exemptions, and about how anyone in favor of or opposed to vaccine mandates for staff and students may choose to articulate their thoughts on the subject to California's legislators as they may likely see legislation on the topic introduced in the next legislative session.

In other action, the board:

- Approved the spending plan for Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds (ESSER III) to address academic losses, and health and safety needs of students during the pandemic. The plan was developed through a collaborative process that included discussions with staff, students and parents, and a public com-

ment period was held over the past week to allow for input on the plan before Board adoption. For more information about the plan, contact the CUSD Business Office.

- Approved the non-award of a construction bid for the aluminum storefront CTE classroom building. The project will be re-bid at a later date.

- Accepted the first quarter summary report of zero complaints related to the requirements of the Williams Lawsuit Settlement.

- Adopted an amendment to Board Policy No. 6146.10 – Graduation Requirements – Clovis Adult Education to adjust the courses and credits for social science and the number of credits for electives.

Complete agendas and minutes, along with videos of recent meetings of the Governing Board are available at www.cusd.com. The next regular meeting of the Governing Board is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 10, with the open portion of the meeting set to begin at 12:30 p.m.

Educators: CW, Cole educators receive County's top honor

FROM PAGE ONE

The honor may be even more meaningful considering the events of this past school year that included online, hybrid and in-person learning environments. All educators found themselves needing to find creative ways to help keep their students engaged, cared for and connected.

Calling the nominees and recipients "heroes" and "champions to their students for never giving up" during the challenging year, Fresno County Superintendent Jim Yovino said they each showed patience, grace, kindness and love for the students and families they served.

"They are examples of perseverance that their students will remember and emulate for years to come," Yovino said.

Johnson joined Clovis Unified in 1987 teaching kindergarten at Lincoln Elementary and has since been a special education teacher, sign language instructor and migrant education teacher.

Through teaching, she saw a need in the community for foster parents, and she stepped up, fostering 25 children and adopting six. When school began entirely online last fall, she held meetings with every family beforehand, reviewing the technology, giving them supplies and holding a "Bed-

time Story Zoom" the night before. She tailored lessons toward each student's needs, made special porch deliveries to every home and bought her students timers so they could take recess or work independently but always know when to get back online. She is tirelessly dedicated to her job, running the school sign language club and serving as a mentor teacher. And when asked of her reward, she answers, "Seeing students empowered, connected and thriving!"

Delgado never really left Clovis West after graduating from there himself. Having seen some of his high school friends struggle because of family situations, gang activity

or being looked down upon because they were different, "I made up my mind to be an advocate for students I wanted to be a person that students could go to when they needed help, a person who would support them when they had nobody else to turn to, and who would serve as a bridge to connect them and their families to Clovis West."

He has done that and more. Within the last 10 years, he co-founded the CUSD High School Latino Student Success Conference and more recently helped develop one for intermediate students. He has won recognitions from the district, from the Association of

Mexican American Educators and now Fresno County. But none, he said, is more meaningful than the thanks of a student who has succeeded. "I would not trade my job for anything."

Congratulations also to CUSD Boris Elementary Principal Demetra Vincent-Walker who was among the nominees for FCSS Administrator of the Year.

Clovis Unified employee groups nominated Johnson, Delgado and Vincent-Walker, all winners of the district's Crystal Award honor, for the Fresno County Educator of the Year program.

"Each define excellence daily in their respective roles," Jager said.



PEACHWOOD MEDICAL GROUP

275 West Herndon, Clovis (Herndon & Villa)

PEDIATRICS Dianne C. Hubbard, MD Brad Sumrell, MD Leta Hering, RN, CPNP 324-6202	URGENT CARE MON-FRI. 9 A.M. - 8 P.M. SAT.-SUN. 9 A.M. - 5 P.M. Our Urgent Care is open to the public on a walk-in basis for those non-emergency illnesses which need immediate attention. Most insurances accepted. 324-6201 Call 324-6201 to get information about sports physicals	FAMILY PRACTICE Jeffrey Aoki, MD Dennis Nakata, MD 324-6206 Robert Castillo, MD Marguerite Smith, MD 324-6207 Judy Miramontes, MD 324-6208 George Gonzalez, MD Jerry Reimer, MD 324-6209 Harjagjit Maan, MD John C. Monteleone, MD 324-6210
--	--	---

A Ministry of First Baptist Church of Clovis



Pre-Kindergarten Enrichment Before and After School Care Programs

Music & Movement ♥ **Phonics** ♥ **Premath Skills**
Art ♥ **Science** ♥ **Bible Time** ♥ **Drama** ♥ **Literacy**

- Qualified Experienced Christian Staff
- Spacious Classrooms and Playground
- Kindergarten Readiness ■ Varied and Nutritious Snacks
- Grade School Transportation

299-5247

2080 TOLLHOUSE ROAD | CLOVIS

www.brightblc.com

Teaching and Caring for Children Ages 2½ to 10 Since 1981

MEMBER OF ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS INTERNATIONAL | LICENSE #100415378 & 100403615



now enrolling for ages 2.5 through 6 years old

START SMALL BLOOM BIG

(559) 324-7946
[@thecampuspreschool](http://www.americaskidsinmotion.com)

THE CAMPUS PRESCHOOL



Clovis Community College

High School Seniors: What's Next to Enroll in Fall 2022 Classes?



Complete your orientation starting December 1st at scccd.edu/orientation or log in to your Student Portal. Don't wait – the earlier you complete orientation, the earlier you can register for classes!

January through April: Academic Advising Begins

Check with your high school counselor to see when advising will take place on your campus. Clovis Community College, Fresno City, Reedley College, and Madera Community College counselors will be available to help you plan your first semester of college courses!



Questions?

Visit www.cloviscollege.edu/outreach for links to live Zoom help, YouTube videos, or to make an appointment with an Outreach Specialist.



Want to take a class before graduation? CCC is still accepting Spring 2022 applications for the High School Enrichment program. Visit www.cloviscollege.edu/hse for more information.

Clovis Community College is the college of choice for academic excellence, innovation, and student achievement.



**Creating Opportunities...
One Student at a Time**