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CUSD team eager to welcome 43,000 students

IN JUST a few days another school year will begin, and in Clovis Unified we are busy putting the final touches to decorate classrooms, finish construction and modernization projects, and prepare to welcome our largest student enrollment yet – around 43,000 students.

We can't wait to meet the more than 2,600 bright-eyed and anxiously excited kindergartners approaching their first day of school ever. At the same time, we know it will be a bittersweet homecoming for members of our senior class, who just finished taking their senior pictures for the



yearbook and will only be with us 10 more months. Across the district and in every classroom, we are eager to see where our adventures will take us for the 2018-19 school year.

Whether you are returning to Clovis Unified, or if this is your first year with our district, we want it to be a successful year for your family. I encourage you to take advantage of the information contained in this issue of *CUSD Today*, and that in our video update, *2 Minutes Today* delivered to your email every month. Each are packed with helpful tips

INFO:

See **Page 5** for helpful tips parents can do now to help their student get ready for a great school year.

on starting the year off right.

This summer we also updated each of our school websites and have launched an app for CUSD. We are very excited to offer the Clovis Unified app – just search for “Clovis Unified” in either the Android or Apple stores.

We want to stay in touch. Your school leaders and your classroom teacher want you to play an active and involved role in your child's education.

Welcome to the 2018-19 school year, and may it be the best one yet for you and your family!

*Eimear O'Farrell, Ed.D.
Superintendent*

Getting Ready



Photo special to *CUSD Today* by Ron Webb.

Summer provides time for Clovis Unified campuses and equipment to get some extra attention. Maintenance, renovations and repairs that include everything from painting to repaving all get underway to prepare for the upcoming school year. In the final few weeks, landscaping is enhanced and even the school buses polished as the district readies for the return of students. Pictured, clockwise from above, groundskeeper Xong Vang trims a hedge at Reyburn Intermediate. Bus driver Feng Ly washes a bus. Bucket loads of wood chips are distributed around Clovis East High.



10 THINGS TO KNOW TO START THE SCHOOL YEAR RIGHT!

1. Clovis Unified School District starts school on Monday, Aug. 20.
2. High school students attending the Center for Advanced Research and Technology will begin classes at CART Wednesday, Aug. 15.
3. Information about individual schools' start and end times can be found at [www.cusd.com/schools](#).
4. A listing of bus schedules is available at [www.cusd.com/transportation](#).
5. School lunch menus are available online through Nutrislice. Listings of upcoming menu items, images and nutritional information are available at [www.cusd.nutrislice.com](#).
6. School websites can be a resource about club signups, co-curricular activities, teachers, class supply lists and more. Check your school's website often for new information. (School websites can be found on the district website at [www.cusd.com](#) under the “Schools” tab.)
7. Three CUSD schools have new leadership. New principals for the 2018-19 school year are Joshua Shapiro at Clovis North Education Center, which includes Clovis North High and Granite Ridge Intermediate; Ben Clement at Enterprise High and Clovis Online; and Ed Schmalzel at Clovis Adult School.
8. Back-to-School Night will be held at individual school sites within the first few weeks of school. Parents, plan on attending to learn what teachers will expect from students in the coming year.
9. Parent Connect offers information about student academic standings on assignments, homework and exams as well as information pertaining to lunch balances and attendance. Parents are encouraged to login to their student's information weekly to keep informed. Go to [www.cusd.com](#) and click on “Parent Connect” under the Parent tab.
10. Download the new Clovis Unified mobile app, available for free on Apple and Android app stores to easily find information about a school.

Clovis Unified launches new free mobile app

CUSD Today

Clovis Unified is introducing a new, free app for mobile devices that provides the latest school news, event dates, student grades, lunch menus and more all in one place.

“We are always looking for ways to increase communication with families and are excited to launch another resource to stay connected with parents, students and employees,” said Chief Communication Officer Kelly Avants.

Parents will be able to use the app to follow their child's school and receive calendar notifications, report a child's absence, view staff lists and call the school when using on a mobile device. If a parent has students in different schools, more than one school can be selected and followed.

The new app provides access to Peach Jar, which is the district's system that emails out school newsletters and flyers about clubs, sports and other opportunities. (Peach Jar replaced traditional paper flyers in the district five years ago and has saved not just time, but also several hundred trees that would have been needed to make the paper.)

The CUSD app also links to ParentConnect where information on a student's grades, test scores and home-

INFO:

Search Clovis Unified in the app store.



work is available. Through ParentConnect, parents can also put money onto their child's cafeteria account.

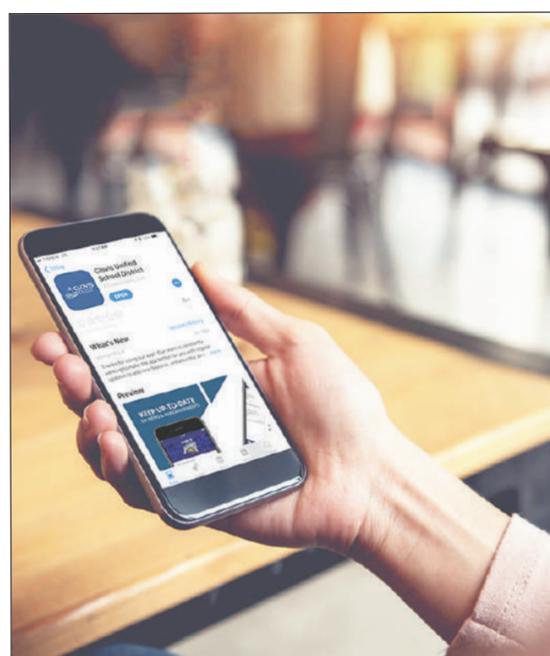
Access to NutriSlice, where school lunch menus and nutritional information is offered, can also be found through the district's new app.

“We wanted to make it easy for parents to access all the ways our schools communicate. The app gives parents this access from their mobile device, anytime,” Avants said.

In March, the district partnered with eSchoolView to create the app and power the district's websites and phone-callout system, which previously used different platforms. With the app, website and callout now integrated under the same system, schools can share information more efficiently.

“Enter once and publish everywhere” is how CUSD Digital Communications Coordinator Jonathan Mathis explained it. “We know our school sites are busy, and under this new approach, an office manager, for example, can enter a message in one place and easily designate the different ways for it to be sent out. This will be a real time saver.”

The app is available for download in iOS and Android app stores.





Many ways for parents to be informed, reach out

■ District encourages shared information, questions

CUSD Today

This school year, let's keep in touch. Clovis Unified looks forward to parents and the community partnering with our educational team as we help our students become the best they can be in mind, body and spirit.

With last year's enrollment of 43,106 students, Clovis Unified has now grown to become the 15th largest school district in California. While we are excited about growth, we remain solidly committed to staying accessible to our community.

There are many ways parents can reach out to connect with us, and there are mul-

iple ways we strive to connect with them.

Each month our student families and employees receive *CUSD Today* in the mail. Our district newspaper – funded by community sponsors by way of advertising support – showcases some of the bigger events and news of the district while also highlighting a sample of the many great things going on in our 52 schools. Story ideas and photos are welcome, and can be sent to a school's designated Media Site Coordinator for consideration.

The district also uses *Two Minutes Today*, a short video blog emailed monthly to parents, to provide information about current news or upcoming topics. (Watch for this month's segment that discusses ways to get ready for the school year and details about Clovis Unified's new mobile app and updated school websites.)

Each of our schools offers a newsletter, website and social media channels that are

full of useful information. On a districtwide level, ParentConnect, NutriSlice and PeachJar will let parents and students easily find out about grades, schoolwork, lunch menus and more. The new Clovis Unified app will give parents the convenience to access much of these items in one place. Parents are also encouraged to follow Clovis Unified on Facebook and Instagram for digital news and updates.

School area system

For families new to the district, it is helpful to understand the structure of Clovis Unified.

Clovis Unified School District includes five comprehensive high schools, five intermediate schools and 33 elementary schools. It also has four alternative education schools, an online school, an outdoor school, CART and an adult education school.

The 200-square-mile area that makes

up Clovis Unified includes most of the City of Clovis, parts of Fresno County and around 20 percent of the City of Fresno.

The district is divided into five school areas and an educational service area, and each has an overseeing assistant superintendent.

The area structure allows the district to maintain a smaller, interactive approach to the needs of the school-area community as the district continues to grow annually by around 300 students.

Founding Clovis Unified Superintendent Dr. Floyd "Doc" Buchanan established many of the core values that the district continues to follow today, including the tenet that it's people, not programs, who make a positive difference. We value people to people connection. Our area structure allows us to remain small and form relationships

► Please see *Informed*, Page 3

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Photo special to CUSD Today.
Campus Club instructor Angela Romero gives students a lesson on art during the afterschool program last year. The lessons were a favorite among kids and will continue this year.

Van Gogh, Matisse visit Campus Club

Students excited for 'art day'

By Lucy Babb
CUSD Campus Club

"Art has the power to transform, to illuminate, to educate, inspire and motivate!"
— Author unknown

Clovis Unified's Campus Club plans on doing just that!

Clovis Unified's Campus Club instructors and credentialed-teacher Angela Romero provided students the opportunity to learn and experience art last year during the afterschool program's "Artist of the Month," and the Campus Club team plans to continue the successful program into the upcoming school year.

Featured artists varied from Vincent Van Gogh, to local artist, Margaret Hudson. Lessons often gave students the opportunity to learn both math and ELA standards through art.

The program created high interest and engaged students through creative projects.

INTERESTED:

Campus Club is a fee-based before and after school enrichment and child care program for grades K-6. It is available at most CUSD elementary schools. Details: 327-9160 or on-line at www.cusd.com/campus-club.

It provided great opportunities for critical thinking and learning objectives that supported their learning in all subject areas. Students learned rich vocabulary through different mediums, textures, shapes and activities.

Campus Club's objective was for each child in the program to have gained knowledge and love for the arts.

"You can't get this wrong," Romero would tell her students, encouraging them to take risks when creating their own art projects and engaging in artistic creation.

When kindergarten student Aiden was asked what he liked best about Campus Club art lessons, he replied, "I like making primary and secondary colors, and I like coloring."

Students often asked instructors, "Is it art day yet?" and were eager to participate.

Informed:

FROM PAGE 2
relationships with the community. As our theme for the year says, we know we are "Better together!"

Keep in touch

Clovis Unified encourages an exchange of information and parents and the community are invited to share comments or questions by contacting a child's classroom teacher, school administrator or area superintendent. School websites

have staff and administrator contact information, and teachers will review with parents the best method to connect with them – some prefer emails, others like phone calls – during back-to-school night. Teachers generally should be a parent's first stop, but parents are always welcome to contact school staff, principals and area superintendents as needed.

Working together, we will make a powerful team for our students and we will make this a great school year!

This is us ...

BUCHANAN AREA

Assistant Superintendent:
Robyn Castillo, Ed.D., 327-9370
High School: Buchanan
Intermediate: Alta Sierra
Elementary: Century, Cole, Dry Creek, Garfield, Tarpey, Woods

CLOVIS AREA

Assistant Superintendent:
Scott Dille, Ed.D., 327-9360
High School: Clovis
Intermediate: Clark
Elementary: Cedarwood, Clovis, Gettysburg, Jefferson, Mickey Cox, Red Bank, Sierra Vista, Weldon

CLOVIS EAST AREA

Assistant Superintendent:
Corrine Folmer, 327-9365
High School: Clovis East
Intermediate: Reyburn
Elementary: Boris, Fancher Creek, Freedom, Miramonte, Ozae, Reagan, Temperance-Kutner

CLOVIS NORTH AREA

Assistant Superintendent:
Darin Tockey, 327-9355
High School: Clovis North
Intermediate: Granite Ridge
Elementary: Bud Rank, Copper Hills, Fugman, Mountain View, Riverview

CLOVIS WEST AREA

Assistant Superintendent:
Marc Hammack, Ed.D., 327-9375
High School: Clovis West
Intermediate: Kastner
Elementary: Fort Washington, Liberty, Lincoln, Nelson, Maple Creek, Pinedale, Valley Oak

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Assistant Superintendent:
Steve France, 327-9380
Specialty Schools: Center for Advanced Research and Technology (CART); Clovis Adult Education; Clovis Community Day
Elementary; Clovis Community Day
Secondary; Clovis Online; Enterprise High; Gateway High; Sierra Outdoor School



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Great dining choices at all CUSD schools

By Nancy Whalen, Registered Dietician
CUSD Campus Catering

Clovis Unified School District's Campus Catering department welcomes students to the 2018-19 school year.

The Campus Catering team serves approximately 25,000 nutritious and delicious meals to CUSD students each day. School menus, along with photos of our food, nutrition information and descriptions can be found at www.cusd.nutrislice.com.

All menus meet USDA nutrition regulations based on the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, such as whole grains, variety of fruits and vegetables, and low-fat and fat-free dairy. The staff recognizes food is only nutritious if consumed, therefore, they work to follow market trends and conduct taste tests to plan student-driven menus that students will enjoy while meeting USDA requirements.

To begin the 2018-19 school year, Campus Catering is offering a vegetarian lunch entrée choice daily on the elementary menu (please note: these vegetarian choices are not all vegan and may contain cheese and/or egg). Some of these new vegetarian options



include: Quesadillas, Three Bean Chili, Macaroni-n-Cheese and Cheesy Pull Apart Bread with Marinara Sauce. In addition, bread and rolls are baked fresh in our schools' kitchens creating an amazingly inviting environment in which to dine.

These balanced nutritious meals are priced at \$1 for breakfast (elementary), \$1.25 for breakfast in grades 7-12 and \$2.25 for lunch (elementary), \$3 for lunch in grades 7-12.

To determine eligibility for free or reduced meals, visit www.cusd.com/lunch. All students are offered the same selection of meals. The Campus Catering team hopes your children enjoy dining with us often and thank you for your support!



Photo special to CUSD Today by Ron Webb. Clovis Unified's Campus Catering serves around 25,000 nutritious, tasty meals every day at school cafeterias. School menus can be found at www.cusd.nutrislice.com.

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Menus above represent sample menus and not actual menu items.

Search for "Menus by Nutrislice" on Google Play or the App Store or visit cusd.nutrislice.com

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District team parallels approach of cave-rescue team

By Eimear O'Farrell, Ed.D.
Superintendent

EVERY four years the FIFA World Cup draws the attention of sports fans around the world. My Irish heritage definitely comes out during this competition and I find myself drawn to the athletic skill and heart of the hundreds of soccer players who compete in this renowned tournament.



Eimear O'Farrell, Ed.D.

I've also delighted in hearing the stories from back home in Ireland of the enthusiasm that the World Cup inspires in soccer fans across the globe.

But this summer there was another soccer team that held the world enthralled, a team that was far removed from the glamour of the World Cup. This was a team of 12 young players and their coach who became trapped in the Tham Luang caves in Thailand.

I, along with everyone I know, was glued to the news throughout their ordeal, rooting enthusiastically for their successful rescue and shedding tears of joy when each one of the young men made it out safely. It was a drama in real life story that caught the hearts and minds of our entire world, and since its happy conclusion I've come to realize that this story has parallels with our own Clovis Unified team.

What I saw play out on the nightly news and streamed through social media was a story about the power of team, and about a very real example of Clovis Unified's theme for this school year: Better Together! I truly believe that this happy story would have had a very different outcome if it hadn't been for teamwork; and what a lesson we can all learn from their example.

This fact first caught my atten-

tion as I heard about the number of different groups from around the world who converged on the extensive cave system north of Bangkok, Thailand to aide in the rescue effort. Civil engineers, medical teams, geologists, dive experts, members of the military and many other groups from numerous countries were involved in this rescue operation.

My second aha moment came when I thought about how each of these groups brought a different skill set and expertise to the attempt.

No one group served a more important purpose, and each was operating in their field of expertise with a common goal to bring the boys and their coach home.

Some groups, like the geologists and mining experts who were focused on attempting to find an alternate exit route, served a secondary support role – a safety net to the primary opera-

tion. This group reminded me of our business team and grounds or

is integral to the success of our entire district.

“ These teams came together, worked around obstacles and looked past any differences in language or culture to stay focused on their goal. ”

construction workers whose work takes place in the background but

Others, like the cave divers, were on the front lines of the rescue. They reminded me of our classroom teachers who each day stand before our students and work tirelessly to bring learning to life and inspire students to success. They, like the divers, are singularly focused on bringing a “happy ending” to our students.

These teams came together, worked around obstacles and looked past any differences in language or culture to stay focused on their goal. After the boys were rescued and in the midst of the worldwide celebration, I heard a story that mentioned another example of the power and necessity of teamwork. In the final hours of the Tham Luang rescue, apparently a critical pump that had been siphoning water from the flooded cavern, failed. If the same thing had happened just a few hours earlier the entire operation would have been compromised.

What if just one group had waved off the offer of help from another? The happy ending to this story may never have happened. What a life learning lesson for us, and what a great reminder that in the coming school year we must elevate the importance of team.

Our team includes every educator in our district – and every employee is an educator. It also includes every one of our students and every one of our parents and guardians. I'm excited about this year, and energized to have every one of you on our team! We are all better because of you.



Photo special to CUSD Today by Ron Webb.

Clovis Unified's Summer Fun program offered participating students the chance to explore a variety of interests from art and pottery to baking, science and coding.

“Love of learning is the most necessary passion ... in it lies our happiness.”

EMILIE DU CHATELET, FRENCH MATHEMATICIAN

Tips to help students have a successful school year

■ Campus tour, homework station among ways to prepare

CUSD Today

The first day of the 2018-19 school year is just around the corner! From teachers and custodians to bus drivers and principals, Clovis Unified employees are getting ready to receive more than 43,000 students this fall at the district's 33 elementary schools, five intermediate schools, five high schools and four alternative education schools.

As summer break winds down, the following are recommendations that can help your child ease back into school and have a successful new school year.

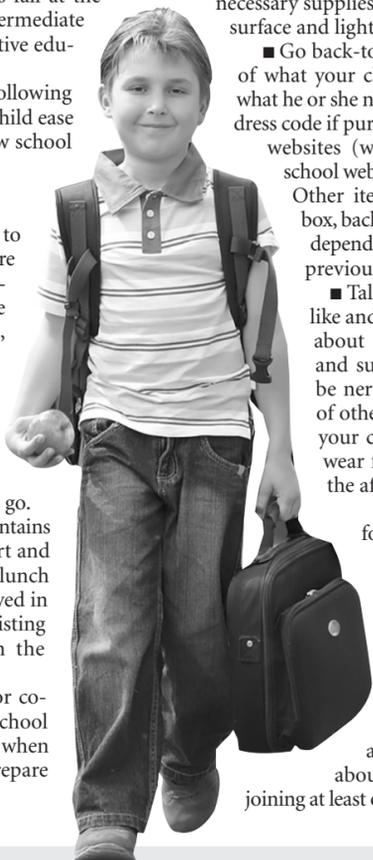
Before school starts

■ Tour the school before the first day to help your student become familiar with where things are. Be sure to find your child's classroom, or classrooms for those in intermediate or high school. Note where the restroom, library, cafeteria and nurse's office are located.

■ Identify your child's drop-off and pick-up meeting place on the school site. If a child is participating in Campus Club or taking a bus home from school, be sure he or she is familiar with where to go.

■ Visit the school website. The website contains valuable information including school start and end times, Back-to-School Night dates, lunch menus, and details about how to get involved in co-curricular activities. There is also a full listing of teachers and administrative staff on the website, including contact information.

■ If your child is interested in sports or co-curricular activities, find out through the school or its website how to get involved and when tryouts or signups are. Help your child prepare and begin to train or practice as necessary.



■ Ease students back into a regular school schedule. The week before school starts, have students go to bed and wake up earlier a little more each day, moving them closer to what the school bedtime/wake-up routine will be.

■ Grab a good book. If students have not been reading this summer, there is still time to warm up those reading skills. Have bedtime reading with younger students.

■ Set up a homework station in the home. Find the best place for students to get their work done. Equip it with necessary supplies and make sure it has a good work surface and lighting.

■ Go back-to-school shopping. Take inventory of what your child has and fill in the gaps with what he or she needs. Keep in mind Clovis Unified's dress code if purchasing clothes. On many teachers' websites (which can be found through the school website), class supply lists are available. Other items to consider are a new lunch box, backpack, water bottle or athletic shoes, depending upon the condition of the year's previous ones.

■ Talk about what that first day may be like and ask your child how he or she feels about it. Offer reassurance, enthusiasm and support. Let them know it's OK to be nervous and let them know that lots of other students feel the same way. Have your child plan out what he or she will wear for the first day of school. Review the after school plan.

■ Make arrangements, if possible, for your child to walk to school with a friend or child in the neighborhood. Meet before the first day of school to practice the route and spend time together building a friendship.

■ Encourage your student to enter the new school year with a mindset of meeting new people and having new experiences. Talk about getting involved at school and joining at least one activity such as a club, academic

or sports team, or the performing arts.

■ Fuel the body well. Take a shopping trip with your child now to help choose foods that are nutritious and that they will enjoy bringing to school.

■ Pre-make a few dinners that can be frozen. Having meals ready the first week of school can help the family avoid added tension and keep things running smooth.

After school starts

■ Make sure your child eats breakfast before school. Have students bring a water bottle to keep hydrated throughout the day. Pack a good lunch. Send a few healthy snacks.

■ Be sure your child gets enough sleep. Doctors recommend children up to the fifth grade get as much as 10 to 11 hours of sleep each night.

■ Establish regular weekday routines for school, homework, mealtime and bedtime.

■ Have your child go to bed organized with backpack, P.E., or co-curricular clothes and equipment ready for the next day.

■ Make lunches the night before. ■ Keep informed. Review all materials the school sends home. Browse the website often to check for important information and dates.

■ If the first couple of days are a little tough: remain positive and calm. Let your child know you care and are there to support him or her.

■ Check in with your child after school. Review homework. If a child begins to struggle in a given subject and you are unable to help, talk it over with his or her teacher.

■ Help your child learn how to keep organized by creating check lists or using a daily planner. Students should note their homework assignments, upcoming deadlines, practice schedules, club meeting times, when permission slips are due and any other important dates.

■ Plan some down time. The weather is still nice and kids will do better having had some time to play outside or ride a bike.

■ Attend Back-to-School Night and meet your child's teacher. This informative night provides parents with an understanding about the structure and expectations of the classroom.

► Please see *Successful*, Page 8

— ABOUT US —

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: 32,500.

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.

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Free, reduced-price meals available for eligible students

CUSD Campus Catering

Clovis Unified School District has announced its policy for providing free and reduced-price meals for children served under the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program. Each school and/or the central office has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party.



The household size and income criteria identified in the 2018-19 Income Eligibility Guidelines chart will be used to determine eligibility for free, reduced-price, or full-price meal benefits. Children from households whose income is at or below the levels shown here are eligible for free or reduced-price meals.

Children who receive CalFresh, California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs), or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) benefits are automatically eligible for free meals regardless of the income of the household in which they reside.

Application forms are being distributed to all households with a letter informing them of the availability of free and reduced-price meals for enrolled children and will be available at all Clovis Unified school sites. Online applications are also available at cusd.com. To apply for free or reduced-price meal benefits, households must complete an application and return it to the school cafeteria or the Campus Catering office for processing or complete an online application.

Applications may be submitted at any time during the school year.

The information households provide on the application will be used to determine meal eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by school or program officials.

Requirements for school officials to determine eligibility for free and reduced-price benefits are as follows: For households receiving CalFresh, CalWORKs, or FDPIR benefits – applications need only include the enrolled child(ren)'s name, CalFresh, CalWORKs, or FDPIR case number, and the signature of an adult household member. All children in households that receive CalFresh, CalWORKs, or FDPIR are eligible for free meals, and if any child is not listed on the eligibility notice, that household should contact Campus Catering to have benefits extended to that child. For households who do not list a CalFresh, CalWORKs, or FDPIR case number, the application must include the names of all household members, the amount and source of the income received by each household member,

and the signature and corresponding last four digits of a Social Security number of the adult household member who completed it. If the household member who signs the application does not have a Social Security number, the household member must indicate on the application that a Social Security number is not available.

Under the provisions of the free and reduced-price meal policy, the determining official(s), as designated by the sponsor/agency, shall review applications and determine eligibility.

Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the eligibility ruling may discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis. Parents may also make a formal request for an appeal hearing of the decision and may do so orally or in writing with the sponsor/agency's hearing official.

Parents or guardians should contact Campus Catering for specific information regarding the name of the determining official and/or hearing official for a specific school, agency, or district.

2018-2019 Income Eligibility Guidelines

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	FREE ELIGIBILITY SCALE Lunch, Breakfast					REDUCED-PRICE ELIGIBILITY SCALE Lunch, Breakfast				
	YEAR	MONTH	TWICE PER MONTH	EVERY TWO WEEKS	WEEK	YEAR	MONTH	TWICE PER MONTH	EVERY TWO WEEKS	WEEK
1	\$ 15,782	\$1,316	\$ 658	\$607	\$304	\$ 22,459	\$1,872	\$936	\$864	\$ 432
2	21,398	1,784	892	823	412	30,451	2,538	1,269	1,172	586
3	27,014	2,252	1,126	1,039	520	38,443	3,204	1,602	1,479	740
4	32,630	2,720	1,360	1,255	628	46,435	3,870	1,935	1,786	893
5	38,246	3,188	1,594	1,471	736	54,427	4,536	2,268	2,094	1,047
6	43,862	3,656	1,828	1,687	844	62,419	5,202	2,601	2,401	1,201
7	49,478	4,124	2,062	1,903	952	70,411	5,868	2,934	2,709	1,355
8	55,094	4,592	2,296	2,119	1,060	78,403	6,534	3,267	3,016	1,508
For each additional family member, add:										
	\$5,616	\$468	\$234	\$216	\$108	\$7,992	\$666	\$333	\$308	\$154

If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size increases, the household should contact Campus Catering. Such changes may make the children of the household eligible for benefits if the household's income falls at or below the levels shown above.

Households that receive CalFresh, CalWORKs, or FDPIR benefits may not have to complete an Application for Free or Reduced-Price Meals. School officials will determine eligibility for free meals based on documentation obtained directly from

the CalFresh, CalWORKs, or FDPIR office that a child is a member of a household currently receiving CalFresh or FDPIR benefits or an assistance unit receiving CalWORKs benefits.

School officials will notify households of their eligibility, but those who do not want their child(ren) to receive free meals must contact Campus Catering. CalFresh, CalWORKs, and FDPIR households should complete an application if they are not notified of their eligibility by Aug. 19.

Your child's eligibility sta-

tus from the previous school year will continue into the next school year for up to 30 operating days or until a new determination is made. When the carryover period ends, your child will be charged the full price for meals, unless the household receives a notification letter for free or reduced-price meals. School officials are not required to send reminder or expired eligibility notices. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

For more information contact CUSD's Campus Catering at 327-9140.

Clark, GR earn national honor

Clark and Granite Ridge intermediate schools were re-designated as National Schools to Watch at the annual conference of the same name in Washington, D.C. this summer.

This is the second time Granite Ridge has received the designation and the third

time for Clark.

Clovis Unified School District was also recognized as a district for having all five of its intermediate schools currently retaining the prestigious designation. Alta Sierra, Kastner and Reyburn intermediate have previously been designated as such.

The National Schools to Watch program recognizes middle schools that show gains in academic excellence, are responsive to the challenges of early adolescence, and are socially equitable in providing all students with high quality teachers, resources and support.

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Brad Sumrell, MD
Leta Hering, RN, CPNP
324-6202

Marty Martin, MD
Amy E. Evans, MD
William van Beaver, DO
324-6203

ADULT MEDICINE

Amitasha Mann, MD
Robert Guzoujian, MD
324-6205

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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
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Better Together Thank You

Thank you to the employees of Clovis Unified who supported the Foundation through payroll deduction in the 2017-18 school year. Your contributions helped to fund 16 Students of Promise scholarships, more than 140 New Teacher Grants and approximately \$89,000 in Classroom and School Grants.

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BOARD BRIEFS

Board approves pay rate increases for substitute teachers

■ New culinary class OK'd for Buchanan High

By Kelly Avants
Chief Communication Officer

July 18

At the Clovis Unified Governing Board meeting July 18, board members approved a new course of study, "Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management," which will be available at Buchanan High for the 2018-19 school year. In addition, the board approved the 11 community-funded bus routes requested by school communities that do not otherwise qualify for busing as outlined in Board Policy No. 8301 – Student Transportation Management.

The board also held two Public Hearings. The first was related to submission of an Instructional Minutes Waiver for transitional

kindergarten, as required by the Education Code, and the second was regarding the dedication of an easement to PG&E related to improvements being made at Veterans Memorial Stadium.

Both recommendations were later approved during the meeting.

Board members discussed a written staff report reflecting that, during the second semester of the 2017-18 school year, the district received zero noncompliance issues under the elementary physical education settlement. This is the last reporting period required by the settlement.

In other action, the board:

■ Approved the submission of a waiver request to the state allowing kindergarten instructional minutes at some school sites to vary from transitional kindergarten instructional minutes at those same sites.

■ Approved the Dashboard Alternative School Status (DASS) and Student Enroll-

ment Certification for Clovis Online and Enterprise High schools. The state's new DASS program aims to evaluate more fairly the success or progress of alternative schools that serve high-risk students. To be eligible for the DASS program, at least 70 percent of each school's enrollment must be comprised of high-risk student groups. Administrative team members from Clovis Online School, Enterprise High and the District Office determined that the enrollment for each school exceeds the 70 percent threshold for high-risk student groups and that DASS would provide the best model to evaluate the performance at both sites.

■ Approved the submission of Clovis Unified's Local Education Agency Plan (LEAP) for the 2018-19 school year.

■ Authorized the district to enter into an agreement with Corwin, a SAGE Company, to provide Visible Learning professional development district-wide.

■ Approved revisions to Board Policy No. 6401 – Rules Governing Payment of Certificated Salaries.

■ Authorized the purchase of musical instruments via piggyback through Fresno Unified School District RFP 16-15, which allows for the expedited purchase of new musical instruments for district VAPA programs and enables Clovis Unified to receive negotiated cost savings and save order lead time.

■ Approved the conveyance of an easement in a portion of the Buchanan Educational Center property required for the installation and operation of electrical facilities to support a communications tower and related improvements.

■ Adopted resolutions authorizing inter-fund loans for cash flow purposes; for general liability and workers' compensation coverage related to volunteer personnel; and authorizing a debt service estimate to be provided to the County of Fresno respecting unsold general obligation refunding bonds for fiscal year 2018-19.

■ Approved all fundraiser requests, student trip requests, change orders, conference requests and bid for supplies, as submitted.

June 13

Before the start of their June 13 meeting, the Governing Board honored employees retiring from the district with a reception. This year, more than 100 individuals retired after serving the students of Clovis Unified for a combined 2,550 years. Later in their meeting, the board approved a resolution thanking the retirees for their service and care for students of the District.

Following the reception, the board acted

upon a number of business items on their agenda.

Highlights of the meeting include:

■ Approval of a \$20 increase in the daily rate of pay for substitute teachers from \$105 to \$125/day. Also approved was an increase to the district's salary schedules of 3 percent. The substitute rate of pay for long-term subs was also increased by \$20. These changes took effect July 1, and will appear on the employee's first paycheck of his or her contracted work year. The district's revised salary schedules are available online.

■ Approval of Rob Barnes to the position of Director of Information Technology, effective Aug. 1, and Ben Clement to Principal, Online School, and Courtney McMahon to the position of Learning Director at Clovis Adult School, both effective July 1.

■ Passage of the proposed 2018-19 budget, a copy of which is available from the Business Services Office.

■ Passage of the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) outlining how the district will meet the needs of at risk students during the coming school year. The LCAP is available online at cusd.com.

■ A public hearing was held to provide opportunities for comment about, and later the Board approved, the annual Special Education service plan and budget.

■ Approval of all fundraisers, student trips, change orders and conference requests as submitted.

■ Scheduling of public hearings related to a proposed waiver request for transition kindergarten instructional minutes requirements, and for the consideration of the granting of a land easement to PG&E at Veterans Memorial Stadium to occur in July during the regular meeting of the Governing Board.

■ Approval of several agreements with service providers for the 2018-19 school year to meet the needs of Special Education students, provide equipment, and supplies and construction services.

■ Approval of new Board Policy No. 4607 – Federal Grant Funds, outlining practices and procedures for handling federally funded grants; and revisions to Board Policies No. 2116, 2202 and 9301 to reflect new guidance from the California Attorney General. The updated policies can be found online in the district's policy database.

Complete minutes and agendas are available online for all meetings, along with videos which are posted for 30 days following the meeting. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Governing Board is set for Aug. 15 at 1680 David E. Cook Way in Clovis.



Preschool registration online

Clovis Unified's preschool registration packet is available online. Families whose children will be 4 years old on or before Feb. 2, 2019, or whose children will be 5 years old between Sept. 2 to Dec. 2, 2018, are eligible to enroll those children in Clovis Unified's preschool programs.

Each preschool program is comprised of a highly qualified teaching staff. The staff

provide a wide range of developmentally appropriate activities for young children. Parents and families are an integral part of our preschool program.

The goal of the preschool program is to develop the whole child through: language and literacy, math, history, science, visual and performing arts, physical development, health and social

emotional instruction.

To register, go to www.cusd.com, select "Parents," then "My Student" and then "Preschool. Open "Registration" from the menu on the left; read instructions; click the orange "Online Registration" button at top right-hand corner; and begin.

For information or assistance, please call (559) 327-9180.

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By the start of the upcoming school year, you'll be able to keep up with everything happening at your school with our brand new **Clovis Unified App** available on all mobile devices!

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This summer our Clovis Unified school websites got a new look. The newly redesigned sites will fuel much of the content of our app.

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FROM PAGE 5

■ Consider volunteering in your child's class, library or parent club.

■ Students, make a habit of packing your homework in your backpack right after completion to assist with being organized in the morning.

■ Students, don't procrastinate. Plan your week ahead and don't leave things until the last minute!

■ Students, take P.E. class seriously. Set fitness goals and try to improve every day.

■ Secondary students, always communicate with your teacher about upcoming co-curricular events that will take you out of class. Find out how to make up the missed work and instruction.

■ Secondary students, remember your learning director and counselor are available to help you succeed. If you have a problem – ac-

ademic, social or emotional – talk with them as there is lots of support available to assist you. ■ Count on having a great school year!

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This year the Foundation for Clovis Schools supported the following programs:

CLASSROOM AND SCHOOL GRANTS:
Infused more than \$210,000 in grants to teachers and school staff for innovative projects to enhance learning and engage students.

STUDENTS OF PROMISE:
16 Clovis Unified high school juniors who are excelling in school in spite of extreme life challenges received \$2,000 scholarships to be used to pursue their educational dreams after graduation.

GRANTS FOR NEW TEACHERS:
\$200 grants were given to 140 new teachers hired in Clovis Unified to assist with the expenses of setting up their classroom.

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CART Summer Academy

For one week, the Center for Advanced Research and Technology (CART) – which is a joint hands-on, learning based school run by Clovis and Fresno unified school districts for high school juniors and seniors – is transformed during the summer as an academy for younger students. Labs let students take part in a variety of activities including making a film, coding a program, building a toolbox and dissecting a sheep's brain.

Photos special to CUSD Today by Ron Webb.



October 4, 2018

SUPERINTENDENT'S BREAKFAST

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The perfect blend of relaxation and recreation – unlike any community in Fresno or Clovis. Renaissance at Bella Vista features Signature Series floor plans on large lots and is nestled in the foothills, boasting nearby access to some of the best indoor and outdoor activities the San Joaquin Valley has to offer, with the Shops at River Park just 18 minutes away and golf at the Eagle Springs Country Club and boating at Millerton Lake within close proximity!

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- No HOA
- Six Signature Series floor plans ranging from 1,515 to 3,537 square feet
- Kitchen islands with sink and breakfast bar
- Eco-Logical energy and money saving green features

FROM THE \$200,000'S

LOCATED ACROSS FROM THE SIERRA VISTA MALL ON SANTA ANA
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 WELCOME CENTER OPEN DAILY
 11 A.M. - 6 P.M.

FROM THE LOW \$300,000'S

LOCATED AT FRIANT AND MARINA NEAR MILLERTON LAKE
THEGROVE@BONADELLE.COM
 WELCOME CENTER OPEN DAILY
 11 A.M. - 6 P.M.

FROM THE \$300,000'S

LOCATED ON FOWLER JUST SOUTH OF HWY 180
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 WELCOME CENTER OPEN DAILY
 11 A.M. - 6 P.M.

FROM THE LOW \$200,000'S

LOCATED ON BARSTOW AVE. EAST OF DEWOLF AVE.
CANYONCREEK@BONADELLE.COM
 WELCOME CENTER OPEN DAILY
 11 A.M. - 6 P.M.



***Broker for sales agents, Pryor Realty (BRE#0012084). Broker Co-op is at the discretion of the Seller and may vary based on financing plan or stage of construction. To qualify for Broker Co-op, Broker/Agent must accompany and register Client on their first visit to the Bonadelle Neighborhoods Welcome Center and Client must not have previously registered on Bonadelle Neighborhoods' website or called Bonadelle Neighborhood's Welcome Center. Broker/Agent must be a member of MLS at the date of registration to receive a referral fee. The registration is valid for a maximum of 90 days.



SUMMER FUN



Hundreds of kids had a blast this summer taking classes at Clovis Unified's Summer Fun program, held at Granite Ridge Intermediate. Children had the opportunity to learn something new or dig in a little deeper to a variety of creative topics. Some of this year's new classes included "Around the World Adventures," "The Art of Disney," "Jedi Training," "Chinese" and "Improv." Ongoing favorites ranged from arts and crafts, cooking, photography, science, reading, computers, sports and drama. Summer Fun was a five-week program that offered two-hour classes for two days a week. Many signed up for multiple classes and made the program a great way to start the summer.



Photos special to CUSD Today by Ron Webb.



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at FRESNO STATE

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WIN A "FAMILY 4-PACK" OF TICKETS!
 Visit the Clovis Unified Facebook page by Monday, Sept. 3 to enter.
 Entry instructions will be posted on the page.
 A "Family 4-pack" will be awarded.
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