

GOLD GAZETTE

The Official Newsletter of the Marysville Joint Unified School District



Highlights in this issue:

**MJUSD STUDENTS RETURN
TO SHADY CREEK**

**MCAA HOSTS FIRST
SPRING CARNIVAL**

**LOMA RICA STUDENTS SING
NATIONAL ANTHEM**

Spring Greetings! This is the April edition of our monthly newsletter where we provide important updates and share exciting things happening across the Marysville Joint Unified School District! If you have a special person, program, or project that you think should be included in a future newsletter, please contact our Public Information Officer Courtney Tompkins by calling her at 530-749-6154 or sending an email to ctompkins@mjUSD.k12.ca.us.



MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Dear MJUSD Community,

Welcome back from Spring Recess! I hope you all had a fun and restful break.

I would like to start off with a huge thanks to all of our families for your continued support of MJUSD schools and programs. Earlier this month I was able to visit Shady Creek Outdoor School in Nevada City with Trustee Alisan Hastey and a few administrators (see below). We had a wonderful time watching our 5th and 6th grade students enjoy such an incredible outdoor learning opportunity.



The last few weeks have been very eventful for our district! This newsletter will give you a sneak peek at some of the wonderful things that have been happening, including the trip to Shady Creek, a bike-to-school event at Ella, a Spring Carnival at MCAA and progress on our district-wide solar panel installations.

I am very proud of our teachers at Foothill, Cordua, Browns Valley, Dobbins, Yuba Feather, and Arboga for attending a recent STEAM workshop where they explored some hands-on learning opportunities they will be able to bring to their students in the 2022-2023 school year.

I am also proud of our staff members who were recognized by the Association of California School Administrators' (ACSA) local chapter for their leadership in moving the district forward. Check out the article on who they are and why they were recognized in our region.

We are down to our last 33 days of the school year and graduations are right around the corner! Please see the updated graduation schedule on page 7. I am excited to meet our students and families at these events.

Sincerely,

Fal Asrani, Ed.D.
Superintendent

MJUSD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Term 2017-2024



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Trustee Area 3
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Trustee Representative Doug F. Criddle
Trustee Area 4
Term 2020-2024



EXECUTIVE CABINET SPOTLIGHT: JENNIFER PASSAGLIA



Jennifer Passaglia currently serves as the district's Chief Business Official. She first started her career with MJUSD in 2008, though she left for a short time in 2021 to serve as Chief Business Official at the Winters Joint Unified School District. She returned to serve in her current role in August 2021.

Ms. Passaglia graduated from California State University, Chico with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration, with an emphasis in Accounting. Prior to working in education, she worked as a realtor specializing in residential real estate in the Yuba-Sutter area.

Ms. Passaglia began her career in education with MJUSD when she accepted a position as an Accounting Technician 14 years ago. Since then she has worked in various positions in the Fiscal Services Department, including as the Director of Fiscal Services. She is glad to have transitioned to a career in education because it gives her the opportunity to serve students every day.

Ms. Passaglia is the proud parent of two adult children and is happy to have been a part of our wonderful Yuba-Sutter community for the past 28 years.

BOOMSHAKALAKA! OUTDOOR ADVENTURES TO SHADY CREEK RETURN ONCE AGAIN

by Tami Straolzini, Shady Creek Principal for Arboga, Edgewater, and Johnson Park

The cries of BOOMSHAKALAKA have been silent for the past 2 years, but this month everything changed for a group of MJUSD 6th grade students who ventured up to Nevada City for a unique outdoor experience. During the week of April 4 to April 8, 6th graders from Arboga, Edgewater, and Johnson Park elementary schools got to once again experience the Shady Creek magic!

Shady Creek Outdoor School has been a rite of passage for many of our MJUSD students going back several years to when it was originally established as Woodleaf. The outdoor education program centers on the environment, teaching students about the interconnectedness of nature as well as ecology and its fragility. But beyond that, Shady Creek is so much more. It emphasizes the importance of self-worth and teaches students about the role they play in the world. It provides our students with an opportunity to be themselves, forge new friendships, and explore the beautiful outdoors. It is always amazing to watch them engage and participate in conversations with the naturalists and other students.

Shady Creek's foundation is built on one word: "positivity." The naturalists and the entire staff at Shady Creek are caring and positive. They provide students with a safe and secure place to share and interact, whether on the night hike, skit night or fun night. The program's success is due in large part to the amazing naturalists here at Shady Creek. The most recognizable individual on campus is the program director himself, Chris Little (known to most as Yeti). He brings an infectious energy to the program that pulls all 6th graders in immediately from his very first bellow of the Shady Creek mantra, "Boomshakalaka".

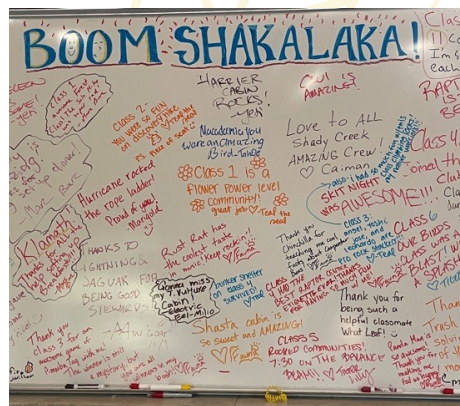
During the weeklong program students attend a wide variety of classes that offer experiences such as visiting the Raptor Center in birds class, building shelters in survival class, and identifying critters in creek ecology class. Every night the students also get to experience an evening program which includes night hikes where they play the role of nocturnal animals and eco-kid summit night where cabinmates find solutions for big issues facing our world today. They also get to share their talents during skit night and close out the week with an unforgettable fun night. Our Arboga, Edgewater, and Johnson Park students experienced an opportunity of a lifetime, and although many tears were shed Friday morning when they had to leave this magical place, the memories here will live in their hearts forever.

Students from Cedar Lane and Foothill will get to experience the Shady Creek magic during the week of April 25 to April 29, and Linda and McKenney schools will attend from May 23 to May 27.

Edgewater 6th grade teacher Jeri Chahon contributed to this article.



Students enjoying live music from the Shady Creek Naturalists just before class.



Students and staff write shoutouts on the Boomshakalaka Board.



Students enjoy exploring the outdoors at Shady Creek during the week of April 4, 2022.



Yeti and the MJUSD Staff at Fun Night: Pictured from left to right - Kiley "Koala" Lagorio, Tami "Tigress" Straolzini, Chris "Yeti" Little, Jennifer "Juniper" McDermott, Nicole "Nighthawk" Verkuyl, Jeri "Jerifish" Chahon, Emily "Marigold" McKinnon, (not pictured: Jesus "Raccoon" Rivas and Hardeep "Squirrely" Sahota).

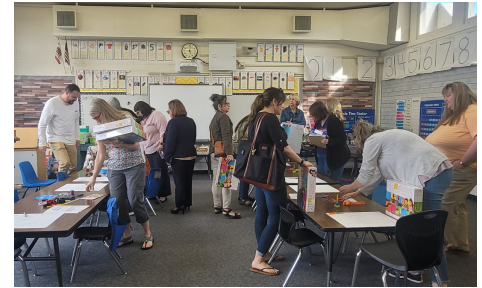
TEACHERS EXPLORE STEAM AT KICKOFF EVENT AT CORDUA

By Alicia Wright, Coordinator of Innovation and Instructional Technology

More than 40 teachers and administrators from Arboga and our six foothill schools came together on March 24 to begin exploring the importance of STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) education in our schools. The event began with an enthusiastic greeting from Superintendent Dr. Fal Asrani and was followed by a keynote presentation from David Culberhouse of San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools. Mr. Culberhouse spoke about the importance of preparing students for the careers of the future, many of which do not yet exist.

Through hands-on exploration, critical thinking, and problem solving — all important components of STEAM lessons — students will build the skills necessary for success in an ever changing workforce. After the keynote presentation, teachers explored materials and resources that will be available to them, including 4-H kits, coding lessons, Yuba Water Agency curriculum, and STEAM workshop activities. The evening ended with a fabulous dinner catered by Lindhurst High Schools' Culinary Arts Teacher, Chef Tim Levitt.

This event was the first step in building a team of teachers who will be working together over the next few years to include meaningful STEAM activities and project-based learning in their classrooms.



Teachers explore hands-on activities at a STEAM kickoff event on March 24, 2022.



Teachers listen to a presentation about preparing students for careers of the future during a STEAM kickoff event on March 24, 2022.



From left to right: Brayden Bowen, Barry (Cub) Kent, Jace Howard, Roan Shandrew, Mattanie Ketchum, and Isaac De La Fuente sing the National Anthem.

LOMA RICA STUDENTS SING NATIONAL ANTHEM

By Ashley Vette, Principal

Second and third graders from Loma Rica Elementary School took something special from their classroom to the baseball field as they helped open the 2022 Season for North Yuba Little League (NYLL).

Students Brayden Bowen, Barry (Cub) Kent, Jace Howard, Roan Shandrew, Mattanie Ketchum, and Isaac De La Fuente sang the National Anthem at the NYLL Opening Ceremonies on Saturday, March 26th.

The National Anthem is one of many patriotic songs that students sing regularly at school with 2nd/3rd grade combo teacher Lisa Rerucha. Normally they sing along with music, but for the performance they decided to go acapella. The idea came to life with the efforts of teacher Lisa Rerucha, School Librarian and NYLL President Alyse Delaney, and parent Fiona Shandrew.

The student singers performed in front of a large crowd that numbered in the hundreds, including many of their peers from school. They received big cheers, and although some were a little nervous, they stayed composed, represented our school with confidence, and provided an honorable contribution to the community. Way to go, Mustangs!

MCAA STUDENTS TO PERFORM FREAKY FRIDAY MUSICAL

By James Lohman, MCAA Principal

The MCAA Drama department is busy rehearsing the Spring Musical, Disney's *Freaky Friday*. The story centers on an organized mother and her spontaneous teenage daughter who magically swap bodies, and have one day to put things right.

Masquerading as each other, they must work together to solve the mystery of how to break the spell. By spending a day in each other's shoes, Katherine and Ellie come to appreciate one another in a way they never could have imagined. In the end, both learn the true power of love and the strength of the bond between a mother and daughter in this heartfelt and hilarious adaptation.

Freaky Friday performances will be in the MHS South Auditorium on April 28, 29, 30 at 7:00 p.m. and April 30 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are available at the door: \$10 General Admission, \$5 Students, Seniors, and Military. For more information please call (530) 749-6157 or visit charter.mjusd.com.

READ-A-THON WINNERS DUCT TAPE PRINCIPAL TO THE WALL

By Courtney Tompkins, Public Information Officer

Several lucky Johnson Park students earned the ultimate reward for their March Madness Read-a-thon: they got to duct tape their principal to the wall!

On March 31, Principal Tracy Pomeroy and Custodian Don Mitchel were all smiles as students secured them to the gym wall using various shades of duct tape, ranging from neon green, pink, yellow, orange, and even some strips that were designed in floral and leopard print. Principal Pomeroy said the students had a blast and they raised a whopping \$1,256 doing it!

All students in grades TK-5 participated in the hour-long read-a-thon last month, but it was the students who raised money with pledges that earned a piece of duct tape.

The top fundraiser was 2nd grader Wesleigh Stowes with \$551; he won a bicycle. The other top fundraisers were 5th grader Arabella Lopez with \$130; 4th graders Rhodin Fagan and Bethanie Smith, who each raised \$120; 1st grader Willow Smith with \$120; and Kindergarteners Leliana Richards and Octavia Derry, who each raised \$50. All of the winners received \$10 gift cards.

Another fun March Madness activity was a basketball tournament. For three weeks they had basketball games during lunch (3 vs. 3) with 3rd to 6th grade students and staff. The final championship game was between Mr. Ghag, Ms. Sahota, and Principal Pomeroy vs. three 6th grade students. Not surprisingly, the students defeated the staff!



Students tape Principal Tracy Pomeroy to the gym wall on March 31, 2022.



Students tape Custodian Don Mitchel to the gym wall during Stuck on Reading event.

SUMMER SCHOOL REGISTRATION OPEN FOR GRADES TK-8

by Alicia Wright, Coordinator of Innovation and Instructional Technology

The Marysville Joint Unified School District's summer school registration is open to all existing students in grades TK to 8. For students currently enrolled in High School, summer school will be credit recovery only. The high school counselors will register the students directly. For students currently enrolled in TK-8th grade, summer school will start on June 13th and end on June 30th. Classes will run Monday through Thursday from 8:30am-12pm. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Transportation will also be provided as needed to all students.

Summer school will be offered at five locations:

- **Kynoch Elementary** will serve students currently in grades K-6 from Kynoch, Covillaud, Edgewater, Linda, Cordua, Browns Valley, Loma Rica, Foothill, and McKenney.
- **Cedar Lane Elementary** will serve students currently in grades K-6 from Cedar Lane, Arboga, Ella, Olivehurst, and Johnson Park.
- **Yuba Feather** will serve students currently in grades K-6 from Yuba Feather and Dobbins.
- **Lindhurst High School** will serve students currently in grades 7-8 from Yuba Gardens.
- **Marysville High School** will serve students currently in grades 7-8 from McKenney and Foothill.

To register your TK-8 student for summer school, please fill out [this form](#). Registration will close on April 22, 2022. Students will be placed on a waiting list for Summer School for any request received after April 15, 2022.

MCAA LAUNCHES ITS FIRST SPRING CARNIVAL

By Mathew Fridrich, MCAA English Teacher



MCAA students perform live music at the inaugural Spring Carnival on April 1, 2022.



Students "dunk" English Teacher Mathew Fridrich during the MCAA Spring Carnival.

On Friday, April 1st, Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts successfully hosted its first Spring Carnival! The 10th grade class organized the event, which featured a collection of carnival games, as well as prizes and food; all booths were run by students, parents, and staff volunteers. Guests also enjoyed pizza, popcorn, snow cones, and cotton candy while getting their faces painted, playing some games and generally just having a good time. Players had the option of earning prize tickets at the paid game booths to be redeemed for an array of fun prizes. The funds raised will be used for dances and other activities for the students through their next two years of school.

During the event, a band of MCAA students treated the crowd to some live music. One of the favorite attractions was the dump bucket: a covid-friendly version of a dunk tank where participants threw a ball at a target to dump a gallon of water dumped onto the head of the unlucky volunteer sitting beneath it. Staff members and students alike volunteered, and people found themselves coming back multiple times to get in on the action. Staff volunteers included Anton Dresler (Science), Anthony Harmon (Music), Mathew Fridrich (English), Nicole Mackie (Science), and Dan Tejada (History), along with a handful of students who took the dunk. Overall, the day was a huge success!

We hope to bring in vendors and community involvement in future years and hope to turn this into a big event where people can bring the family for a fun night out to support a local school. Be on the lookout next spring for the MCAA Spring Carnival. We look forward to seeing you there!

MCAA would like to send a special thanks to Arboga and Kynoch for their support in letting us borrow some of the materials for the event, as well as the local businesses Cookie Tree and Sawyer's Sweet Spot that offered their support and donations!

EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAM OPEN TO INCOMING FRESHMEN

by Alicia Wright, Coordinator of Innovation and Instructional Technology

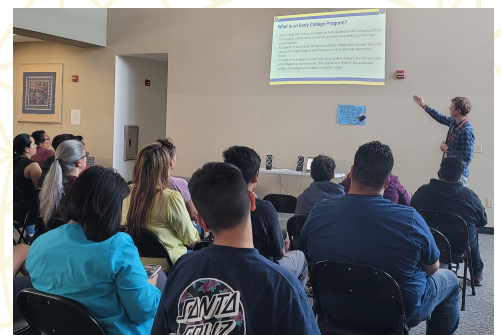
Incoming 9th grade students are invited to apply for MJUSD's Early College High School program. Early College students will take courses at Yuba College each morning and will ultimately earn their Associate of Science degree in Social & Behavioral Science at Yuba College as well as their high school diploma upon graduation.

The application window for MJUSD's Early College High School program opens April 1 and closes April 29. Interested parents and students are invited to an informational meeting on Wednesday, April 20, 2022 at 6pm in the MJUSD District Office Board Room. For more information or to apply, please see the links below.

[Early College Program Informational Video](#)

[Early College Program application](#)

Please contact Alicia Wright at awright@mjusd.com with any questions you might have about the program.



Lindhurst High School Counselor Jimmy Graben shares Early College information with parents and students at Yuba Gardens Intermediate School on March 31, 2022.

EDGEWATER SEES SMOOTH DAILY DISMISSAL WITH PIKMYKID APP

By Jodi Buda, Edgewater Assistant Principal

I think most of us have experienced a chaotic after-school pickup at some point or another. With hundreds of students waiting to go home and parents streaming into the parking lot searching for their child(ren), the situation can become overwhelming rather quickly. But thanks to the PikMyKid App, we have found a system that helps us **dismiss 500 students in just 10 minutes!**

We discovered PikMyKid during collaborative talks with our school safety team and community stakeholders who all agreed that we wanted to find a way to simplify dismissal, engage parents, and keep students safe. Student and staff safety is our number one priority at Edgewater so we were thrilled to find a school safety company that offered tools that empower teachers and parents to keep our kids safe during the school day.

The introduction of PikMyKid has resulted in fewer daily calls to the front office, leaving more time to tackle other tasks. If parents don't have the app or choose not to use it, teachers can also make the changes for them. The platform offers a free reporting system that ensures accountability. For example, we can mark students present or absent or indicate if they are dismissed early. Making dismissal changes are a breeze with the Pikmykid Parent App. Instead of calling the front office to make updates, parents can make pickup, delegation, and attendance changes right from their smartphone.

We can also download reports that show dismissal data, including who picked up a child, the time of dismissal, and the pickup mode. Not every family looks the same; whether it's grandma, uncle, or stepmom, the app allows parents to choose who has pickup permissions and authorize who can make dismissal changes. With the parent notification feature, teachers and administrators can quickly report issues to parents. The PikMyKid app can also send push notifications directly to our parents' smartphones. For our Spanish-speaking families, the Parent App can be used in Spanish on iOS and Android devices.

At Edgewater, parents who have signed up their students for the after-school program or a tutoring session can easily assign their child(ren) the same day or on a specific schedule for the school year. This allows teachers to view a report and send students to the correct areas when the bell rings – taking weekly emails or notes out of the equation. Parents have said this capability is their favorite feature! The app also sends a notification when their child has arrived in the after-school program. Lastly, a huge benefit of this new platform is that it increases time in the classroom and allows more time to focus on learning, which is a win-win! Teamwork truly makes the dream work!



A staff member helps facilitate dismissal at Edgewater.

MJUSD PROMOTES STELLAR EMPLOYEES TO NEW LEADERSHIP ROLES

by Courtney Tompkins, Public Information Officer

There were a few key leadership promotions during the month of March that we would like to celebrate. Congratulations to Jolie Critchfield on her selection as Child Development Director; Shevaun Mathews on her selection as Director of Special Education; and Chris Schmidt on his selection to lead Lindhurst High School as its new Principal.

Ms. Critchfield has worked for the District for 25 years, and has served many roles inside and outside of the classroom, including Teacher, Principal, Coordinator of Student Discipline and Attendance, and her current position, Director of Student Supports and Innovations. When asked about her vision for her new role as Director of Child Development, she said, "Early literacy and exposure to reading and writing will ignite a fire within a child to be a life-long learner and have a successful future. Because the work of a preschool teacher is so important, my role in selecting highly talented and uniquely qualified people to bolster an already outstanding program must continue to be a priority in order to create the best learning environment for our children."



Jolie Critchfield

continued on p. 7

Ms. Mathews started with the district 15 years ago, beginning with the role of Assistant Principal at Marysville High School. She then went on to serve as Principal at McKenney Intermediate School for five years before returning to serve as Principal at Marysville High School five years ago. In her new role as Director of Special Education, Ms. Mathews said she hopes to bring her team together to foster growth and build capacity so they can serve students in the best way possible. With her background in speech pathology and audiology, and as a former special education teacher, Ms. Mathews is looking forward to “strengthening our partnerships with parents and community organizations that support our students.” She said she is excited to start the new role, which brings her back to her roots in education.



Shevaun Mathews



Chris Schmidt

Mr. Schmidt has worked for the district for the past 8 years, starting out as a teacher at Lindhurst High School before becoming Assistant Principal. He previously worked as a teacher in Reno, Nevada for six years before settling in the Yuba-Sutter area. Of his new role, Mr. Schmidt said he is excited to get started and plans to continue doing what's best for the kids. "There are so many amazing students and things happening on our campus that I plan on showcasing," he said. "I want to celebrate our students and staff for those amazing things. I believe that will help with the culture of the school, and when the culture of a school is positive, the other aspects of education start to fall into place."

Prior to beginning his career in education, Mr. Schmidt served in the U.S. Navy for six years, which included two deployments overseas right after the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. He has been married to his wife Shanin for 17 years, and has two children who support him in everything he does.

Congratulations to each of you! All positions take effect on July 1, 2022.

2022 8TH GRADE PROMOTION & HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION CALENDAR

DATE	SCHOOL	TIME	LOCATION
Tuesday 5/31/22	South Lindhurst High School	7:00 pm	LHS Dean Miller Stadium
Wednesday 6/1/22	Yuba Gardens Intermediate School	6:00 pm	Yuba Gardens Intermediate School
Wednesday 6/1/22	Abraham Lincoln School	12th Grade - 7:00pm	LHS Dean Miller Stadium
Wednesday 6/1/22	Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts	8th grade - 5:00 p.m. 12th grade - 7:00 p.m.	MCAA outside stage
Thursday 6/2/22	Foothill Intermediate School	6:00 pm	Foothill Intermediate School
Thursday 6/2/22	McKenney Intermediate School	7:30 pm	MHS War Memorial Stadium
Thursday 6/2/22	Lindhurst High School	6:30 pm	LHS Dean Miller Stadium
Friday 6/3/22	Marysville High School	7:30 pm	MHS War Memorial Stadium

EMPLOYEES EARN ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR AWARDS

by Courtney Tompkins, Public Information Officer

Five MJUSD staff members received Administrator of the Year awards during an outdoor ceremony on April 7 at Munger Family Vineyards. The award recipients were nominated by their colleagues for their outstanding accomplishments and contributions to education. The Association of California School Administrator (ACSA) awards ceremony recognized employees who work in Colusa, Sutter and Yuba county school districts. There were 14 individuals in total who received awards. Congratulations to all the nominees and award recipients!

The honorees and categories are as follows:



Angela Hale - Confidential Employee (Executive Assistant to the Superintendent)

"Angela managed Educational Services with a grace and style that has not just helped the district and supported the sites, but also helped me grow professionally." - Rocco Greco



Jami Larson - CTE Administrator (Director of Categorical Programs)

"Jami has been instrumental in the creation and expansion of the (CTE) program offerings and serves as a tireless advocate for our students." - Fal Asrani



James Lohman - Technology Leader (while at YCUSD; current Principal at MCAA)

"James is the epitome of an all-around team player and he will be successful in any educational endeavor he chooses to put his mind to." - Rocco Greco



Amber Watson - District Central Office Administrator (Director of Nutrition Services)

"Even during the busiest of days, Amber remains composed, always available to offer guidance or support, even serving meals during lunch when sites are short handed. But her strongest passion is making access to meals available and as equitable for as many as possible." - Jennifer Passaglia



Alicia Wright - Curriculum & Instruction Administrator (Coordinator of Innovation & Instructional Tech)

"Alicia's creativity and willingness to take risks has enabled her to promote the success of all students by advocating for advanced programs and offering training and support for staff." - Fal Asrani



Administrator of the Year award recipients from left to right: Angela Hale, Amber Watson, James Lohman, Jami Larson, and Alicia Wright.

MJUSD UNDERGOES FEDERAL PROGRAM MONITOR REVIEW

by Nohemi Arroyo-Magana, ELD Coordinator
and Amy Stratton, Interim Director of Curriculum, Assessment, and Accountability

The Marysville Joint Unified School District recently underwent a review called a Federal Program Monitor (FPM). This process was carried out by eight reviewers from the California Department of Education. The District was reviewed in the following areas: Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate, Compensatory Education, English Learner, Fiscal Monitoring, Physical Education, Supporting Effective Instruction, School Support and Improvement, and Uniform Complaint Procedure. There were a total of 72 items reviewed; of those, 66 items (92%) were found to be in compliance.

Superintendent Fal Asrani applauded the hard work that went into the review process. "To have only 6 findings in one identified area confirms that the district operates in a conscientious and compliant manner," she said. "I am very proud of the team."

There are 6 findings that we are required to resolve districtwide. Two of the findings required an update to Board Policies and Administrative Regulations. The other four findings were in the English Learner Program. The findings were EL 01: ELAC meetings, EL 11: EL Authorization, EL 14: ELD Instruction and ELD 15: Student Access to Standard Instructional Programs. MJUSD is committed to updating our policies and procedures to meet the requirements to clear our findings.

AWARD-WINNING INDEPENDENT FILM NORTH CENTRAL PREMIERS AT LOCAL THEATERS

by Courtney Tompkins, Public Information Officer
and Alicia Wright, Coordinator of Innovation and Instructional Technology

After three years of hard work, an independent film that was shot at Marysville High School is finally premiering in local movie theaters. *North Central* is a coming of age story that follows a high school student as he navigates through trouble, temptation, dedication, and love.

The filming process began in early 2019 when Alicia Wright, known as Alicia Restivo in the acting world, met LT Coopwood III, a writer and director from Sacramento. Wright, MJUSD's Coordinator of Innovation, was asked to help produce the film and get his story out there to inspire other high school students. Later that year, in June, the Marysville High School track and classrooms were used to film most of the movie. Several members of the MHS track team, including Coach Tarr, were extras in the film and some even had speaking roles! Sadly, one of the track students who was in the film, Jose "Freddy" Ramirez, later died in a car accident, so the film is dedicated to him.



Amy Eggleston, Marcy Tarr, LT Coopwood III, Alicia (Restivo) Wright, and Shevaun Mathews at the North Central Premier on April 3, 2022.

The first local screening was held on April 3 at Studio Movie Grill in Rocklin and was attended by several MJUSD staff members, including Superintendent Fal Asrani. Another screening will be held on Sunday, April 24 in Rocklin from 12 to 3 pm; [tickets can be purchased through Eventbrite](#). The team is also working with Marysville High School to host a local screening. The film has not yet been rated, but it is not recommended for young audiences. You can [watch the trailer here](#). To learn more about the film, email chosenoneproductionsinfo@gmail.com.

North Central received the following awards and nominations on the Independent Film Festival Circuit last year:

- Capital City Black Film Festival, Austin, TX - First Place Feature Film
- Oniros Film Awards, New York - Finalist, First Time Director
- Los Angeles Film Awards - Honorable Mention: Narrative Feature & Inspirational Film
- Studio City International Film Festival - Official Selection
- Las Vegas Film Festival - Nominee

ELLA STUDENTS BIKE TO SCHOOL AND EARN PRIZES DURING ANNUAL EVENT

By Karen Dow, Ella Assistant Principal

Ella students gathered in groups and rolled to school on their bikes and scooters to celebrate the annual Bike to School Day on Friday, April 8.

The students began arriving at school around 7:50 am, just in time to participate in some fun activities and earn prizes from sponsor Civic Thread (formerly WALKSacramento). Students also got a chance to participate in a "bike rodeo" during lunchtime, where they did a bike skills activity, earned prizes, and were fitted for new helmets!

The educational and social event was part of Yuba County's Safe Routes to School Program, a movement that makes it easier and safer for students to walk or bike to school.



Students arrive to school on April 8, 2022 and park their bikes.



Students getting fitted for a helmet.



Students enjoying a meal after getting fitted for new helmets and joining the bike rodeo.

COVILLAUD STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

By Bernie Ridgeway, Marysville Children's Center Site Supervisor

Covillaud students at the Marysville Children's Center received an exciting visit from Yuba County Health and Human Services last month to talk about bicycle and pedestrian safety.

During the visit, the students learned a few safety tips including why it's best to walk on sidewalks and with an adult. The team also talked with the students about the importance of wearing a helmet while riding a bike and afterward each student was fitted for a brand new helmet! Students were also given a safety light to use when walking or riding in the evening. A big thank you to the Yuba County team - Tarrah Tomlinson, Karah Glavaris, Juliya Tkachenko and Araiba Kahn!



A student gets fitted for a new helmet during bicycle and pedestrian safety day at Marysville Children's Center.

SITELOGIQ DISTRICT-WIDE SOLAR PANEL PROJECT UPDATE

by Doug Trower, Interim Director of Maintenance and Operations

Over the past year a lot of work has been done to upgrade infrastructure and reduce energy consumption thanks to an ongoing partnership with SitelogIQ. The multi-year agreement started in 2020 as an innovative way to accumulate energy savings through energy upgrades that would allow the district to put \$1.5 million back into its general fund each year. The SitelogIQ team is working with MJUSD to install solar panels across the district to generate energy to reduce costs, among many other projects. Here is a site update:

Nearing Completion:

- **Browns Valley** - Major construction complete. System went online 2/16/22.
- **Cordua** - Major construction complete. System went online 2/17/22
- **Johnson Park** - Structure and major electrical complete. Working with PG&E to schedule interconnection and permission to operate. Estimated to be online by mid April.
- **Linda** - Structure and major electrical complete. Working with PG&E to schedule interconnection and permission to operate. Estimated to be on line by mid April.
- **Ella** - Structure and major electrical complete. Working with PG&E to schedule interconnection and permission to operate. Estimated to be online by mid April.
- **McKenney** - Structure and major electrical complete. Working with PG&E to schedule interconnection and permission to operate. Estimated to be online by mid April.

Mobilization:

- **Kynoch** - DSA approved. Mobilized 3/14/22. Concrete pillars have been poured; solar structures started 4/11/22.
- **Olivehurst** - DSA approved. Mobilized 3/14/22. Concrete pillars have been poured; solar structures started 4/11/22.
- **Lindhurst Front/South** - DSA Approved. Mobilized 3/28/22. Concrete pillars have been poured; solar structures started 4/11/22.
- **Lindhurst Ground Mount** - Fencing complete. Installation started 3/14/22. Concrete pillars have been poured; solar structures started 4/11/22.
- **Yuba Gardens** - DSA Approved. Pouring concrete pillars started 4/11/22.

Summer Build

- **Edgewater** - DSA Approved
- **Marysville High School MOT Bus** - Finalizing location
- **Marysville High School** - Finalizing layout to accommodate Caltrans work
- **Cedar Lane** - Submitted to California Geologic Survey; waiting for approval

Fall/Winter Build

- **Arboga** - Engineering began in April 2022 with installation expected in late 2022
- **Dobbins** - Engineering began in April 2022 with installation expected in late 2022

Sites that need MJUSD Master Plan to finalize location:

- **Foothill Intermediate**
- **Covillaud**

YUBA FEATHER HOSTS PLANETARY LANDER EGG DROP COMPETITION

By Carlene McCarty, 4th Grade Teacher

"Drop that egg! Drop that egg!", could be heard across the blacktop as Yuba Feather Elementary School hosted our annual Egg Drop contest on April 8th. The egg excitement for our fun science activity had been building for days. Students, with a set of guidelines, built their egg landers at home as a family STEM project. Many methods were used by students to protect their eggs. Cardboard boxes with various types of "stuffing", pool noodles, stuffed animals, and plastic containers were just some of the materials used to create the egg landers.

Our wonderful maintenance department set up the lift and dropped our egg landers for us. After each lander was dropped, students, staff, and parents anxiously waited for our principal, Mr. Triplett, to check for "survivors." Out of 61 egg landers, 20 survived the drop. The final "egg" did not fare so well but was really fun to watch. A watermelon splattered on the tarp below followed by cheers from the Wildcats.

Leading up to the Egg Drop, Yuba Feather had a fun "Almost Spring Break" Spirit Week. Students had fun dressing up in red, white, and blue, team jerseys, Wildcat swag, hats, and bright colors & tie-dye during the week.

The Yuba Feather PTSA also provided an egg hunt for all of our Wildcats out on the big field. A few lucky students found golden eggs that earned them a special prize. Thank you Sirena Lehmann, Kara Shelton, Stacy Greene, and Tiffany Shelton for all of your hard work! Fun was had by all!



The maintenance department gets ready to drop a lander as Wildcats look on in anticipation. Will the egg survive or go splat?



Yuba Feather Wildcats celebrate as student-created egg landers were dropped from atop a 30-foot lift.

APRIL SCHOOL SITE NEWSLETTERS

**BROWNS VALLEY
ELEMENTARY**



EDGEWATER ELEMENTARY



**YUBA GARDENS
INTERMEDIATE**



CORDUA ELEMENTARY



ELLA ELEMENTARY



**SOUTH LINDHURST
HIGH SCHOOL**

DOBBINS ELEMENTARY



LINDHURST HIGH SCHOOL



MARYSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL



YUBA FEATHER ELEMENTARY



Abraham Lincoln
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Arboga Elementary
Principal Eric Preston
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Browns Valley Elementary
Principal Heather Marshall
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Cedar Lane Elementary
Principal Rebecca Evers
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revers@mjUSD.com



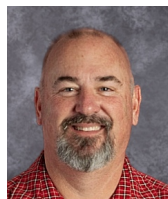
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Linda Elementary
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Lindhurst High School
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McKenney Intermediate
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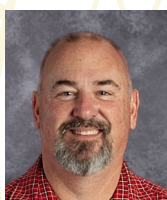
Olivehurst Elementary
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South Lindhurst High School
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