May 2022 Vol. 1 Issue 9

GOLD GAZETTE

The Official Newsletter of the Marysville Joint Unified School District







Highlights in this issue:

DOBBINS STAFF & FAMILIES GATHER FOR ANNUAL HIGH TEA PARTY

MHS NAMES & DEDICATES MARGERY MAGILL AGRICULTURAL COMPLEX

STUDENTS ENJOY
NATIVE PEOPLE'S HISTORY
DAY EVENT

Greetings! This is the May edition of our monthly newsletter where we provide important updates and share exciting things happening across the Marysville Joint Unified School District! After our graduation issue in June, we will halt publication for the month of July and resume in August, when we return for the 2022-2023 school year. 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.kl2.ca.us.



MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear MJUSD families and friends,



As we approach the end of the school year, I want to celebrate some of the student and staff achievements we have highlighted throughout the year in the Gold Gazette. But first, let me start by saying that none of this great work would have been possible without the talented and hardworking staff and students in our district as well as the support of our parents. We have so much to be proud of!

Where shall I start? How about with the 2022 graduating class? Did you know that we are celebrating a 99% graduation rate this year? Please join me in congratulating the class of 2022! These students are about to embark on the next chapter of their young and exciting lives with a diploma in hand that says, "WE DID IT!" These resilient students have endured a tough couple of years, completing high school through a worldwide pandemic and the introduction of distance learning. We are so proud of them.

The high school graduation ceremonies are as follows:

MJUSD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President Randy L. Davis Trustee Area 1 Term 2017-2024



Clerk Randy L. Rasmussen Trustee Area 3 Term 2014-2022

Member Jeff D. Boom Trustee Area 4 Term 2002-2022

Member Frank J. Crawford Trustee Area 2 Term 2010-2022

Member Gary J. Criddle Trustee Area 2 Term 2020-2024

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















South Lindhurst High School - Tuesday, May 31st, 7:00 pm at the LHS Dean Miller Stadium Abraham Lincoln - Wednesday, June 1st, 7:00 pm at the LHS Dean Miller Stadium Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts - Wednesday, June 1st, 7:00 pm at the MCAA Outside Stage Lindhurst High School - Thursday, June 2nd, 6:30 pm at the LHS Dean Miller Stadium Marysville High School - Friday, June 3rd, 7:30 pm at the MHS War Memorial Stadium

Speaking of our amazing students, I want to commend our student leaders for joining the inaugural Student Engagement and Leadership (SEAL) Team, which meets monthly to discuss important projects and share insight to help influence districtwide decisions.

A few recommendations from this year's group have already been approved by the Board and are being implemented, including the return of AVID courses at all intermediate and high schools, the addition of American Sign Language classes at MHS, LHS and MCAA, and additional AP and Dual Enrollment courses.

The students also gave important input on the Equity Policy, Strategic Plan, and the LCAP. I am looking forward to the work we will do together next year. Some students are graduating, but we will have a new group ready to join us after they attend the summer leadership workshop, *Leader in Me*, with Dr. Amy Murray.



Members of the SEAL Team were recognized by the Board of Trustees during a Board meeting on Tuesday, May 10, 2022.

Superintendent Year in Review continued on p. 2

Superintendent Year in Review continued from p. 1

Another exciting student-led addition is a program called "Let's Talk," a talk show produced by Lindhurst High School students enrolled in the Arts, Media, and Entertainment CTE pathway. The show is produced in their state-of-the-art broadcast studio where students interview several leaders across the district. This year they interviewed a few of our Board members and some new administrators, including myself, to allow us to share a bit about the work we are doing in our respective roles. "Let's Talk" gives our students real world experience in the field of broadcasting and allows them to share information with our community. A big shout out to their instructor, Mr. Troy Spangler, for his guidance and to our wonderfully talented students for producing this program. You can view the episodes on the district website.



LHS students produce an episode of "Let's Talk" in the Blazer Studio.

There is an ongoing effort to gather input and feedback from our community partners. I have had the pleasure and honor of working with a large group of community and civic leaders who have committed to helping MJUSD move to the next level of success and we thank them for this collaborative partnership. Their input and feedback has had a significant impact on the strategic planning process which has resulted in an action plan for MJUSD for the next three years.



Having heard from the community about the need to expand college and careers options, we designed a new partnership with <u>California State University</u>, <u>Chico</u>. Starting in August, counselors and admissions staff from Chico State will work directly with our students to guide them in making decisions for transition to four-year college. They will also help them complete college and scholarship applications. In addition, we have met with Yuba College to expand Dual Enrollment options and Early College High School. Completion of a Dual Enrollment course earns both college and high school credits.

I have really enjoyed meeting and celebrating the many students and staff members who make our district such a special place to be. This year we have celebrated the arts, music, athletics, and our Career Technical Education programs, among many other areas. Many of our middle and high students have successfully competed in regional, state, and national competitions, including our MHS AcaDeca team, Yuba Gardens Band, FFA students, and MCAA's art students. I am so proud of them!



Yuba Gardens band performs.

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In other exciting news, MJUSD will once again reopen the Adult Education School under the leadership of Mr. Bob Eckardt. This is something our students and families asked for, and we are so happy we could make it happen.



Teachers attend a STEAM workshop.



Foothill students take VR college tours.

This year we have also seen some growth and expansion in our STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) initiative. All five school sites in the foothills and Arboga Elementary have collaboratively started shifting their curriculum to include hands-on, project-based learning to provide their students with exciting new educational opportunities. Teachers at these sites recently participated in a STEAM workshop to learn how to integrate STEAM activities into their daily instruction. I look forward to seeing this program evolve in the 2022-2023 school year.

Continuing with the STEAM theme, earlier this year we introduced Virtual Reality college tours for our middle and high school students. Rather than traveling around the country to tour a campus in person, which is costly and hard to do, students can put on a virtual reality headset and walk around their college campus of choice without ever having to leave the classroom. In addition to college tours, these headsets allow students to tour national parks, see historic monuments, and walk through the streets of Paris or London to experience a truly unique history lesson. We plan to expand these offerings to our elementary students as well.

Superintendent Year in Review continued on p. 3

Superintendent Year in Review continued from p. 2

Many staff members and students earned awards this year, including five leaders who won regional Administrator of the Year awards for their outstanding work during the 2020-2021 school year. The recipients and their awards are as follows:

Angela Hale, Confidential Employee
Jami Larson, Career Technical Education (CTE) Administrator
James Lohman, Technology Leader
Amber Watson, District Central Office Administrator
Alicia Wright, Curriculum & Instruction Administrator



Administrator of the Year Award recipients (left to right): Angela Hale, Amber Wright, James Lohman, Jami Larson, and Alicia Wright.

Amid all of this wonderful work, we also embarked on the process to create a Strategic Plan for 2022-2025, a collaborative process that involved survey input from more than 700 stakeholders and brought over 100 students, staff, and community members together to develop our districtwide focus areas.



Yuba Feather team distributes materials to students during distance learning.

Join me in congratulating Yuba Feather Elementary for earning the 2022 Pivotal Practice Award from the California Department of Education. This award is being given in place of the annual California Distinguished Schools award and it recognizes districts and schools that implemented noteworthy practices during distance learning amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Yuba Feather is the only school that received this award in Yuba County. What a great achievement!!

Finally, several facilities projects are underway or will be starting soon. Here is a brief update:

- The Arboga Elementary School TK-8 expansion project is on time and on budget; it is slated for completion by summer.
- Planning for Covillaud Elementary School is in full swing, with construction expected to break ground in the coming year.
- We will start planning new construction for Foothill Intermediate School and will be releasing updates about this soon.
- Districtwide solar panel installations are being completed and you can see the shade structures at Linda, Cordua, Ella, McKenney, and Lindhurst, to name a few.

In the next issue we will celebrate our graduates and share their success stories with you. A heartfelt thanks to our teachers, classified staff, and administrators for their continued hard work. We are almost at the finish line and are bringing this year to a close with wonderful synergy and excitement for the upcoming year. Wishing our graduates a safe and successful graduation.



Arboga beam signing event amid the TK-8 expansion project.



Solar panels are being installed districtwide.

Sincerely

Fal Asrani, Ed.D. Superintendent

HUNDREDS ATTEND NATIVE PEOPLE'S HISTORY DAY EVENT ON MJUSD'S FRONT LAWN

By Courtney Tompkins, Public Information Officer







Students attend the annual Native People's History Day event at the MJUSD District Office. Students learned how to shoot a bow and arrow, Pow Wow dances, and how to create corn husk dolls. These were just a few of the many activities offered during the event on May 12, 2022.

Hundreds of students attended the annual Native People's History Day event, a hands-on learning event that immerses students in activities and new experiences to teach them about indigenous cultures and traditions.

Throughout the event, students learned how to shoot a bow and arrow, make fire, carve soapstone, and make corn husk dolls, among many other experiences. Laughter and wonder filled the air as children soaked up each experience. For the event, students spent a set amount of time at each station, which featured a different activity or experience, before rotating on to the next station. Students also got to experience traditional Pow Wow dancers, a storytelling session, and taste native foods. The students traveled from schools across Butte, Sutter, and Yuba counties to attend the annual event, which required the help of 50 volunteers to set up and 100 teachers to staff the stations.

The incredible educational event was held on May 12 and organized by Pat Bennett, Supervisor of the American Indian Education Program. She said that making the event happen required the help of dozens of staff members and volunteers who helped set up tents, tables, and stations, and led the students through each activity. "Pat has been a cornerstone of this district and the American Indian Education Program," Superintendent Dr. Fal Asrani said. "Making this possible for not just ours, but other surrounding districts, is truly noteworthy."

The American Indian Education Program of Marysville serves approximately 1,000 American Indian Students in the Yuba-Sutter bi-county area. For more information, you can visit the program page on the MJUSD website.

MARYSVILLE ROLL & STROLL EVENT KICKS OFF THIS WEEKEND

The Yuba County Office of Education is sponsoring a fun free event called the Marysville Roll & Stroll, on Saturday, May 21, from 8 am to 3 pm.

The Roll & Stroll will include children's crafts and activities, a car, motorcycle and tractor show, live band, chili cook-off, welding competition, craft fair and food trucks.

The event will be located near the Yuba County Career Preparatory Charter School, at 1104 E Street in Marysville. May 21 is also the Kiwanis Fishing Derby at Ellis Lake so it will be a wonderful day filled with fun activities for the community.

While you're out there, be sure to stop by our MJUSD's Career Technical Education (CTE) booth to find out more about our hands-on courses that teach students practical skills in various industry sectors, including agriculture, arts and media, construction, and culinary arts.



"Gaze", 2022 by Hannah Miethe.



"Digital Insides" 2022 by Kennith Xiong.

MCAA STUDENTS WIN 2022 KINGSLEY ART CLUB AWARDS

By Courtney Tompkins, Public Information Officer

Senior Hannah Miethe of Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts has been named a 2022 Kingsley Art Club Award Winner for her digital print, "Gaze."

More than 80 students in grades 9-12 submitted artwork from around the region to be featured in an annual art exhibition. Of those, 10 prizes were awarded for 1st through 4th place and Honorable Mention. Hannah placed 4th in the contest and fellow MCAA student Kennith Xiong, who is a junior, received an Honorable Mention for his piece, "Digital Insides."

The students were honored during a reception on Sunday, April 24. Hannah and Kenneth's work is also on display at the Crocker Art Museum in Sacramento through July 24, 2022. Five additional pieces of artwork submitted by MCAA students were selected to be included in the exhibition and are on display in the Kingsley Room at the Crocker Art Museum. The students whose pieces are also on display are Alexandra Giongco, Lela Frias, Kevin Briceno, Hope Cross, and Caitlin Dobson.

The Kingsley Art Club was founded in 1892 and has worked closely with the Crocker Art Museum to feature young artists in the Sacramento region. It has become an annual tradition to invite high school students within a 100 mile radius of the Crocker Art Museum to enter an annual juried art contest for a chance to be featured in a months-long exhibition. Congratulations to our winners and to all of the incredibly talented students who submitted artwork for consideration.

MJUSD RETIREES CELEBRATED DURING FAREWELL EVENT

By Courtney Tompkins, Public Information Officer

Last week we gathered to celebrate some of our beloved employees who are retiring after many years of dedicated service to the Marysville Joint Unified School District.

The wonderful event was held on May 10 in our District Office Board Room, where attendees enjoyed hors d'oeuvres catered by Lindhurst High School Culinary Arts students and their instructor, Executive Chef Tim Levitt. The gourmet spread included fresh bruschetta, shrimp cocktail, curried chicken skewers, tri-tip sliders, barbecue meatballs, and an antipasto tray. Several MCAA students also provided live entertainment during the event, featuring performances by jazz band, a pianist, and choir.

"I am so glad we were able to personally thank our retirees. This event will be planned and celebrated each year," said Dr. Fal Asrani, who helped organize and plan the event.

During the event, retirees each came to the front of the room to receive a retirement gift and shake hands with members of the Executive Cabinet and Board of Trustees. They each shared a few words about their time and MJUSD and aspirations for retirement. A huge thank you to all who helped plan this celebratory event, including Angela Hale and Esmeralda Davis. Congratulations to all who are retiring! Thank you for your service!





LHS Culinary Arts students catered the retirement celebration on Tuesday, May 10, 2022.



Retirees, administrators and members of the Board of Trustees during the May 10 retirement celebration.

MHS UNVEILS MARGERY MAGILL AGRICULTURE COMPLEX AT DEDICATION CEREMONY

by Courtney Tompkins, Public Information Officer



A plaque dedicating the MHS agricultural facilities to Margery Magill.



The newly named Margery Magill Agricultural Complex during a dedication ceremony on April 26, 2022. to the FFA and 4-H students.



Scholarship recipients with Raeann Magill after she presented the awards



Members of the Board of Trustees and Executive Cabinet attend the dedication ceremony on April 26, 2022.

Marysville High School held a beautiful dedication ceremony on April 26 for the newly named Margery Magill Agricultural Complex. The sprawling outdoor space, located at the corner of Chestnut and 17th Street, on the MHS campus, houses an agricultural barn, a small orchard, two greenhouses, and a garden complex.

More than 100 students, staff, and community members came together for the afternoon ceremony to honor the late Margery Magill, who was a former student and beloved member of the Marysville community. Margery still holds the title of most decorated FFA student in MHS's 150-year history.

The event included heartfelt words from MHS Principal Shevaun Mathews, former MHS Principal and retired MJUSD Superintendent Gary Cena, Assemblymember James Gallagher, Marysville FFA Chapter President Jacob Flavell and Margery's father, Jeff Magill, and sister Raeann Magill.

During the event, Raeann awarded five scholarships in Margery's name to local students involved in FFA and 4-H. The students who earned the awards are Makayla Grimm, Lyndsey Foster, and Jade Lassaga from Marysville High School, along with Matthew Brockhoff from Wheatland and Jennifer Sanchez, River Valley. Congratulations to the recipients!

A huge thank you to the FFA team and the MHS community for planning the dedication, to the MJUSD Board of Trustees for approving the naming of the complex, and to all who came together to create such a memorable event!

SCHOOLS 'SOUND THE ALARM' TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION

By Jolie Critchfield, Director of Student Supports and Innovation

First responders, schools, and community organizations throughout Yuba County participated in an event on April 1 to raise awareness about child abuse prevention.

The "Ring Out Against Child Abuse" kicked off at noon with a flag raising and moment of silence as participants "sounded the alarm" to raise awareness about the important issue. Linda, Edgewater, Johnson Park and Covillaud elementary schools are among the sites that participated in the event organized by Yuba County Children's Wellness and Child Abuse Prevention Council.



Tony Gordon (left), Deputy Director of Yuba County Child Protective Services and Jason Roper (right), Program Manager at Yuba County Health and Human Services talk with students about child abuse prevention and hoist a Child Welfare League of America Flag up the flagpole during the April 1 event at Covillaud.



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DOBBINS COMMUNITY ENJOYS ANNUAL SPRING HIGH TEA PARTY

by Courtney Tompkins, Public Information Officer

Students, staff, and families sipped tea, nibbled on snacks and enjoyed a beautiful gathering together at the annual High Tea Party at Dobbins Elementary School on May 6.

The participants arrived that Friday morning in floral and lace spring dresses, collared shirts, bow ties and fancy hats, and sipped tea with one another while chatting with their neighbors and listening to musical performances by some of the students. Principal Duane Triplett said the event started many years ago in Mrs. Kelly's kindergarten class. It was expanded to a campus-wide event about five years ago, and it's been the most attended event of the year ever since.



Dobbins students, staff, and families gather for the Spring Tea Party.



Principal Duane Triplett talks with families during the annual Spring High Tea event at Dobbins on May 6, 2022.

"It's such an incredible event," he said. "Our families enjoy spending time together and our staff goes above and beyond to make it happen."

For this year's event, the staff members covered the outdoor picnic tables with white tablecloths, jute runners and beautiful floral arrangements. The staff also took time to make English cucumber sandwiches, and filled plates with fresh baked cookies, pastries, and fresh fruit and vegetables. Vintage ceramic tea pots were placed on each table and each setting had a glass tea cup.

This tight-knit community of students attend MJUSD's smallest school in the mountains above Marysville. Dobbins Elementary has about a dozen staff members and serves 37 students in grades K-6. The on-site preschool also serves 16 students.

YUBA FEATHER RECEIVES PIVOTAL PRACTICE AWARD FROM CDE

by Courtney Tompkins, Public Information Officer

Yuba Feather Elementary School received the Pivotal Practice Award from the California Department of Education for going above and beyond to make sure their students stayed connected during the COVID-19 pandemic. Yuba Feather is the only school that received the 2022 Pivotal Practice Award in Yuba County.



Yuba Feather teachers distribute materials to families during distance learning.

"This award is proof of the unbelievably hard work and effort that this staff does to ensure that the children of this community are getting the best education possible," said Principal Duane Triplett. "Due to lack of or limited internet connection for many of our families, we couldn't do Zoom meets or Google Classroom so we shifted and the teachers recorded lessons, which we duplicated on thumb drives, and then coordinated distribution with food service days."

The <u>California Pivotal Practice Award</u> was utilized in 2022 in place of the annual California Distinguished Schools Program to celebrate districts and schools that implemented an innovative practice during the 2020–21 school year, when California required schools to offer distance learning. Of the award, Superintendent Dr. Fal Asrani said "Given some unique challenges at the school, the staff went above and beyond to ensure their students received what they needed to continue their education. We are so proud of all their hard work."

During distance learning, Mr. Triplett said teachers worked long days to record lessons, paraprofessionals helped make videos for intervention, and special education teachers made videos and brought kids in every day to work with them. The teachers were also available on campus to answer questions and say hello to their students and offer any assistance they might need. At that time, he said, they had about 150 students. He also credited the MJUSD technology department with helping get thumb drive duplicators, Chromebooks, and ample equipment to make it all happen. "It was a huge effort," he said. "I am so happy that our team is being recognized for it."

EDGEWATER CELEBRATES MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

By Jodi Buda, Edgewater Assistant Principal

The entire month of April is designated Month of the Military Child, a time to applaud military children and their families for their daily sacrifices and the challenges they overcome.

Edgewater celebrated by holding a "Purple Up! For Military Kids Day" on April 21, where students, teachers, and staff wore purple to show support for their military families and thank their military children for their courage and strength. April 19th marks the official worldwide observance of Purple Up! Day.

Why Purple?

The color purple was chosen to represent military children, because it symbolizes all branches of the military. It is the combination of Army green, Coast Guard blue, Air Force blue, Marine red and Navy blue.

Also worth noting, the Purple Heart medal is presented to service members who have been wounded or killed as a result of enemy action while serving in the U.S. military.



Edgewater staff and students participate in Purple Up! For Military Kids Day on Thursday, April 21, 2022.

A Purple Heart is a solemn distinction and means a service member has greatly sacrificed themselves, or paid the ultimate price, while in the line of duty.

How Purple Up! Day Began

There's an emphasis in United States military culture on "the total force," the "whole person concept" and similarly-themed philosophies that hold that troops, their families, and their extended families are more than the sum of their parts.

The notion of the "total force" should rightfully include families as they are the lifeline between military service (especially overseas) and the individual officers or enlisted members. With that in mind, former Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger in 1986 designated each April as the Month of the Military Child.

"My Life As a Military Child" Essay Contest

We recently learned that two Edgewater students won a local essay contest titled "My Life As a Military Child." Congratulations to 3rd grader Ferrel Vinson Love who won 2nd Runner Up and to 3rd grader Ivan Kokes who won 3rd Runner Up! We are so proud of them. Each student was awarded a cash prize.

The essay contest was open to students ages 5 to 18 years old who are military dependents of a service member assigned to Beale Air Force Base. Students were encouraged to write their thoughts and experiences in a short essay, and winners were then selected across six categories.



Covillaud students, parents and staff during the "Lego 2" themed Family Fun Night on April 22, 2022.

COVILLAUD HOSTS LEGO-THEMED FAMILY FUN NIGHT

By Kari Ylst, Covillaud Principal

The Covillaud community enjoyed a Family Fun Night that included games, movies, and a raffle. During the Lego-themed event on April 22, families set up their lawn chairs and snacked on popcorn, candy, and drinks while watching the Lego Movie 2: The Second Part. Thanks to our wonderful Parent-Teacher-Child Organization (PTCO) for sponsoring some of the goodies and to our families for making it a memorable event!

MCAA STUDENTS EARN TOP HONORS AT CONGRESSIONAL AWARDS CEREMONY

by Courtney Tompkins, Public Information Officer

Three Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts students received top honors at a congressional art awards ceremony this month at UC Davis.

The grand prize went to MCAA freshman Meli Engleheart for her piece titled, "A Lovely Smile." Meli's work will be displayed for a year in an art gallery in the U.S. Capitol, alongside just over 400 winners from Congressional Districts throughout the country. Meli also won a trip to Washington D.C.

The Congressional High School Art Competition awards were presented by Congressman John Garamendi (D-CA), who selected the winners out of more than 70 entries from students in Glenn, Solano, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba counties.



Caption 1: (left to right) Students Meli Engleheart, Diana Franco, and Joey Martin show off their award-winning artwork with Congressman John Garamendi (D-CA) at a ceremony for the Congressional High School Art Competition at UC Davis on May 3, 2022.

"Congratulations to Meli Engleheart for winning this year's competition." Garamendi said in a statement. "She has a rare gift, and I hope she continues to follow her dreams. The competition was stiff this year, and there were a lot of impressive pieces."

MCAA senior Diana Franco won runner-up so her work will be displayed in Congressman Garamendi's office in Washington D.C., and junior Joey Martin won best overall for the Northern Region so his work will be displayed in the congressman's local office in Davis.

"I could not be more proud of our students," said MCAA Teacher Glen Weisgerber. "They did a phenomenal job. All of them shared very personal stories about their work."

The Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts award recipients are below:

Grand Prize Winner
"A Lovely Smile"
Meli Engleheart, Browns Valley

Runner Up "Enliven" Diana Franco, Marysville Northern Tier Winner "Real Boy" Joey Martin, Marysville

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PRINCIPAL WINS STATEWIDE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD



David Jones

by Courtney Tompkins, Public Information Officer

David Jones has been named a 2022 Administrator of the Year for the California Continuation Education Association Plus, a statewide organization that encourages continuation high schools and community day schools to provide students with an effective instructional program that includes individualized instruction and self-paced learning.

Mr. David Jones currently serves as Principal of alternative education programs, including South Lindhurst High School and Community Day School, as well as the Abraham Lincoln Independent Study Program. He has worked in the Marysville Joint Unified School District for the past 20 years, including 13 years as an administrator.

Staff members nominated Mr. Jones for the award, and when he received notification that he had won, he was taken by surprise. "I was shocked," he said. "I absolutely love CCEA's conferences for alternative education so it's definitely a great honor."

Mr. Jones recently shared his vision for the future of alternative education in our district with the Board of Trustees. In his proposal, he said he would like to restructure the program and address credit deficiency issues to meet the needs of all the students that he serves.

MJUSD CELEBRATES STAFF AND TEACHER APPRECIATION DURING THE MONTH OF MAY

Schools across the district found really fun, unique, and creative ways to celebrate their teachers and staff members throughout the month of May. This month the Board of Trustees also approved a Board Policy that allows sites to spend a set amount of funds on staff appreciation initiatives, which includes some of the wonderful surprises you will read about below. The Board and Cabinet also sent signed "thank you" cards to the staff members to express appreciation for teachers and staff members. "We appreciate our staff every day," Superintendent Dr. Fal Asrani said. "We know they work very hard so we found a small way to thank them. Next month we will host a 'thank you' bbq lunch for all staff. That will be a lot of fun."

At Olivehurst, John Green and Katie Jacenich organized a tricycle race for teachers. Mrs. Staving came in first, Mrs. Hart took second, and Mrs. Ortiz rolled into third. The race also gave an opportunity for staff members to demonstrate this month's character trait: courage. Principal Rob Gregor also put on a barbecue for staff, serving up tri-tip, chicken, hot dogs, watermelon, veggies, and dessert!





Images from Olivehurst's staff and teacher appreciation events.





At Johnson Park, teachers had a piñata party and a "nacho average teacher" appreciation lunch complete with a nacho bar, beverages, and sweet treats. Teachers also received special gifts filled with crayons, glue, pens, pencils and other classroom favorites. Staff also enjoyed coffee and donuts for "donut what we would do without you" day in the staff lounge.

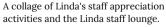
Images from Johnson Park's staff and teacher appreciation events.

Mary Covillaud celebrated Staff appreciation week the entire week of May 2nd to May 6th. Our baseball-themed was "If we teach it, they will learn!" Our community showered our staff with incredible food and gifts. PTCO spoiled our staff with daily surprises. The administration provided a catered lunch and a special sweet treat. We appreciate the staff at Mary Covillaud every day of the year, but it was nice to take some time to show our staff that what they do each and every day is appreciated.



Covillaud's "If we teach it, they will learn" staff lounge during appreciation week.







At Linda we LOVE our staff and we celebrated them all week long. Our Appreciation Week included Spa Water and snacks provided by our Sunshine Club. The staff lounge was decorated with posters and messages that recognized their work and staff were invited to play Plinko and Spin It To Win It games for prizes and gift cards! Staff were also treated to Fill-the-Fridge Friday and a pizza lunch provided by administration. Each staff member also received a personal thank you card with the Starfish poem and a mini starfish inside.

At Ella, their Parent Teacher Organization did an incredible job recognizing teachers and staff members. Teachers enjoyed goodie bags, secret gifts, a treat bar, coffee and donuts, and a taco lunch. The site's theme for the week of May 4-8 was "Teaching is a Work of Heart." Staff Appreciation Week is this week and they are excited to keep celebrating their incredible team!

Teacher and Staff Appreciation continued on p.11





Goodie bags and a taco lunch was provided for Ella's teachers during appreciation week.

Teacher and Staff Appreciation continued from p.10

At Community Day School, Secretary Geu Thao created themed days that included a bagel breakfast, fruit cups, goodie bags, and beautiful spider plants to remind them of how important it is to plant a seed.

At Abraham Lincoln, Mrs. Lidia Zapian put on a full feast of Mexican food for our teachers and staff to enjoy. The amount of food could feed an army and she is an amazing cook. The ABL staff were in hog heaven and very grateful!

Cedar Lane celebrated teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week and is celebrating classified staff this week during Classified School Employees Week. We provided coffee, treats and lunch catered by Panera. Students also made and put up posters around school appreciating their teachers.

South Lindhurst High School staff enjoyed donuts, coffee, and conversation in the morning, which was a great way to start the day!





A few of the appreciation gifts created for teachers and staff members at Community Day School.





A spread of appreciation gifts provided to teachers and staff members at Cedar Lane.



Appreciation gifts created for staff at Cordua Elementary.



Appreciation gifts created for staff at Browns Valley Elementary School.

The Parent Teacher Associations at Browns Valley and Cordua celebrated staff every day during appreciation week with different food offerings, personalized beach towels, and salsa bowls! They were also treated to Cookie Tree from the principal and they received donuts and breakfast in the staff room along with a thank you card from our Board Members, Dr. Fal Asrani, and the Executive Cabinet. The staff members at both Browns Valley and Cordua are exceptionally dedicated, and take such pride in serving for the success of our students. They are appreciated every day!

Edgewater kicked off staff appreciation on May 2nd-6th. Students showed appreciation for their teachers by making something special each day. Staff were greeted with coffee and donuts, pastries, and a luncheon provided by PTO. We have wonderful admin who showed appreciation for our office staff by baking for us, making fresh lemonade and other goodies and we couldn't be more thankful. Teachers also showed their appreciation and provided us with warm loving gifts. Last week we celebrated our Edgewater family with a staff luncheon on Friday, May 13th and more surprises to come. We would like to thank Khmer Thai Kitchen for their great food and service. We have definitely felt appreciated and are grateful to be part of the Edgewater Family. "Team Work Makes the Dream Work."





Edgewater staff members enjoying a nice meal during appreciation week.

MAY SCHOOL SITE NEWSLETTERS



DOBBINS ELEMENTARY



EDGEWATER ELEMENTARY



ELLA ELEMENTARY



KYNOCH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



LINDA ELEMENTARY



MARYSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL



SOUTH LINDHURST HIGH SCHOOL



YUBA FEATHER ELEMENTARY



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