

GOLD GAZETTE

The Official Newsletter of Marysville Joint Unified School District



Highlights in this issue

**WELCOME MESSAGE,
DR. FAL ASRANI**

SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT

**MULTI-TIERED
SYSTEMS OF SUPPORT**

It is hard to believe we are already in our second month of the 2021-2022 school year! The weather is starting to feel crisp and cool in the early mornings and fall is fast approaching. Over the past few weeks our district has welcomed new leaders, teachers, support staff, and workers across every department, and we are so excited to see our teams working together to create a safe, happy, and healthy learning environment. We could not do it without each and every one of you, so thank you. We have created this monthly newsletter to share information, spotlight schools, students, and staff, and strengthen our school-to-home community. If you have a special person, program, or project that you think should be included in a future newsletter, please let us know!



MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

MJUSD Community,

It is truly an honor to join the MJUSD family and a district with such rich history and tradition. I am excited to join a team of dedicated staff committed to preparing every student for college, career, and life. I have visited with each department team across the district, multiple school sites and a few community meetings. I even attended a Football game.

My visits to sites have allowed me to see the beautiful campuses, the smiling students and the dedicated adults. These past two years have been extremely challenging for everyone, from our daily experiences to the numerous impacts on teaching and learning. Our administrators, teachers, and support staff have adapted to the constantly shifting educational landscape and have continued to support students and families at the highest levels and are still continuing to do so.

We started the 2021-2022 school year with specific guidance from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the Governor's office. As a public school district, we are expected to adhere to public health guidelines regarding safety protocols, masks, vaccination, and testing mandates. Our highest priority is the safety, health, and wellness of our students, staff, and community, and I extend my gratitude to our employees for their commitment to upholding the health and safety standards. We have increased counseling support at each site and we encourage parents to contact your school Principal for information on how we can provide social-emotional support as part of our ongoing commitment to the health and wellness of our families.

On behalf of the Marysville Joint Unified School District Board of Trustees, I extend my sincere gratitude for your ongoing support of our schools and programs. I am very excited to be part of this district and wish each of you a wonderful and productive school year!

Sincerely,
Fal Asrani Ed.D.
Superintendent

MJUSD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President Randy Rasmussen
Trustee Area 3
Term 2014-2022



Vice President Gary J. Criddle
Trustee Area 2
Term 2020-2024



Member Jeff Boom
Trustee Area 4
Term 2002-2022



Member Randy L. Davis
Trustee Area 1
Term 2020-2024



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



Clerk Alisan R. Hastey
Trustee Area 3
Term 2014-2022



Trustee Representative Doug F. Criddle
Trustee Area 4
Term 2014-2022



TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT: RANDY RASMUSSEN

Mr. Randy Rasmussen, President of the MJUSD Board of Trustees, grew up in West Linda and attended Cedar Lane Elementary, Alicia Intermediate School (now-closed), and Marysville High school, where he played on the CIF championship football team.

Mr. Rasmussen attended UC Davis and graduated from San Jose State University. He married his wife Lydia in 1980 and together they have three sons and six grandchildren. He was later hired as a teacher at Lindhurst High School where he taught classes in Metal Shop and Auto Shop and also coached football and wrestling. In 1988 he became a school counselor and served in that position until 2002 when he was appointed as Director of Student Services at Wheatland School District. He remained in that role until he retired in 2016.

Mr Rasmussen was elected to the MJUSD Board of Trustees in 2014 and has served as the Board President since 2017. As a retired teacher and district administrator, he brings deep knowledge and understanding about schools and how school systems function and he uses his wisdom and experience to ensure that every student has an opportunity to achieve success.



MJUSD TEAM CONTINUES TO GROW

by *Ramiro Carreon, Assistant Superintendent of Personnel Services*



School districts across the state of California are experiencing staffing shortages related to the COVID-19 pandemic, and Marysville Joint Unified School District is no different. Thankfully we have a great team in our Personnel Department that has hired 171 employees since June, while working creatively and strategically to recruit new qualified candidates to join the MJUSD family every day.

The District uses a number of different avenues to recruit new hires, including attending job fairs and conferences, connecting with colleges and universities to share opportunities, and posting positions on career websites such as EdJoin. When searching for new hires, the District seeks to find employees with a strong moral compass who are purpose-driven, focused, compassionate, and empathetic.

We are so thankful to our current staff members who embody all of these qualities and remain passionate in their commitment to helping children grow and learn. Despite the challenges COVID-19 presents, our staff members' desire to serve their community and spread positivity while working with our students is commendable. Thank you for your patience and perseverance as we continue searching for like-minded individuals to join our team

MULTI-TIERED SYSTEMS OF SUPPORT

by *Dr. Amy Murray, MTSS Coordinator*

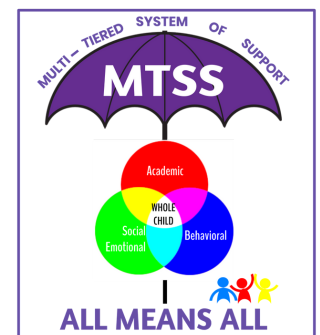


Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (or MTSS) is a framework that supports the "whole child" through a multi-tiered continuum of research-based, system-wide practices. We are all partners in this work at MJUSD and our goal is to support the academic, behavior, social-emotional, and mental health needs of each child. Working together as a team, the parents, teachers, school staff, and community all play a role in providing support for kids at Tier I, Tier II, and Tier III levels.

Tier I supports are designed universally for all students. All students should have access to high quality first instruction delivered in an inclusive, equitable environment. Within the general education classroom, there are structures in place to use data to identify students who may be struggling. Teachers and administrators monitor progress so we know when the student is making gains or needs more help.

Tier II supports and interventions are designed for students who have additional needs. If a student is struggling, he/she needs to be identified early, and provided with the necessary support in order to be successful. Across all three tiers, teachers and administrators monitor progress so that we know when the student is making gains or needs more help.

Tier III supports are more intensive and are designed to meet the needs of individual students. At all tiers, the goal is to figure out what is needed for an individual student to make progress in identified areas. If you have any questions about MTSS, please reach out to Amy Murray, MJUSD MTSS Coordinator, at amym@mjUSD.k12.ca.us.





SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT: COMMUNITY DAY SCHOOL

by Principal David Gray



As Principal of this school site, I am proud of the overpowering desire for our school to help every student, every day and in every way.

We, as a staff, are committed to delivering the best 360 minutes of every day to our students. In the few short weeks we have had together we have seen this in action. Our students are putting in great efforts to recover credits, pass current classes and have a safe and secure place to be every day.

Our weekly RISE CARD drawings and student of the month features, as well as the daily interactions between staff and students makes this school a place to be proud of.



SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT: ABRAHAM LINCOLN INDEPENDENT STUDY PROGRAM

by Principal David Gray

As Abraham Lincoln School reopens, there is much excitement and optimism for the opportunity for students whose personal situations call for a different approach to education, while doing equal and parallel to comprehensive sites school work.

The dedication of our staff, to serving the students of our district and commitment to being the best at what we do has enabled the school to have a strong start to the school year.

As the school builds into what it, ultimately, will become, the educational pieces will enable students to be a part of a WASC accredited school that opens doors to careers, military, vocational and higher educational opportunities for all who attend.

We welcome the challenges to come as well as the experiences that our students will have as they prepare for their futures which will ultimately benefit them and our community.





Images of artwork created by MCAA students for a 56-card deck featuring four distinct art styles: Realism, Pop Art, Surrealism, and Expressionism.

SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT: MCAA STUDENTS SHOWCASE TALENT

by Principal Tim Malone



Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts (MCAA) is a 7th -12th grade school with an arts focus. Over the last year, MCAA has been recognized as a California Distinguished School and has also been recognized as a California Exemplary Arts School. We have a great variety of fine and performing arts classes, but for the purposes of this article we want to focus on the visual arts classes and students taught by Mr. Glen Weisgerber.

Despite the difficulties of remote learning during the last school year, the MCAA visual arts department had a number of noteworthy accomplishments. For example, Amelia Villagomez won the 2020 Congressional Art competition and had her work displayed in the halls of Congress in Washington DC for a full year! Additionally, Hunter Hudson, Dixie Rivera, Yadira Sarabia, Angela Delgado, Kevin Briceno, and Alexi Hogue were selected to have their work on display at the Crocker Art Museum in Sacramento. We also had several students enter the juried “Coaster” competition at Gallery 30 South in Pasadena; all those who entered sold their work during the month-long exhibit.

Every student who submitted a portfolio to the AP College Board passed with a score of 3 or higher; MCAA students’ average score is almost a full point higher than the state and national averages.

The 2021-2022 school year is off to another strong start! We have four students whose work is currently displayed at the 9th annual Coaster Show at Gallery 30 South in Pasadena. Alexandra Giongco took second place in the 2021 Congressional Art Competition, and students Hunter Hudson and Hope Cross won the Congressional Art Competition for Sutter and Yuba counties, respectively.

Students have also begun working on a deck of cards based on four distinct art styles: Realism, Surrealism, Pop Art, and Expressionism. This is a huge undertaking containing 56 original paintings and drawings. The decks will be professionally printed and sold to raise money for the department. Art students are also working with Ms. Ramirez’s Creative Writing classes to create unique postcards that incorporate original poems and illustrations. This will involve almost 50 students from each department.

Finally, a large outdoor art installation is planned, which will bring attention to the 4.4 million acres that had burned in California in the last year. Students will be painting 44 duck decoys, with each decoy representing 100,000 acres. The installation will hopefully be installed on Ellis Lake with the help of the Yuba Sutter Arts Center.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

by Nohemi Arroyo-Magana,
ELD Program Specialist



Hispanic Heritage Month started as a single week in 1968 established under President Lyndon Johnson's Administration and was later expanded to an entire month in 1988 by President Ronald Reagan as a way to honor American citizens of Hispanic and Latino descent who made their mark on this country.

As we head into this period of the school year, it's an excellent reminder of the diverse cultural heritage our students bring to our classrooms daily. Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates the culture of 21 different Spanish speaking countries, and our students' heritage is reflected in the beauty of many of their names.

As a way to participate in Hispanic Heritage Month, and to continue to develop the climate of celebration for all cultures, we encourage MJUSD educators to learn more about their students' names.

Find resources at t.ly/TWYg Thank you for participating in this small, but very significant effort in celebrating our students at MJUSD.

EL RISE!

by Nohemi Arroyo-Magana,
ELD Program Specialist

MJUSD Teachers and Administrators begin the EL Rise! series through the Sacramento County Office of Education this September.

Our kickoff on September 8th introduced elementary teachers to the diversity within English Learners. We explored the 3 major groups of emerging bilingual students: Refugees, Newcomers, and Long Term English Learners. Teachers learned ways to create culturally responsive classrooms, leverage students' home language as an asset, understand the diverse needs of emerging bilingual students, and how to build and sustain safe, affirming, and inclusive classroom communities.

Did you know 22 different languages are represented by MJUSD students!?! What a wealth of knowledge and expertise our students bring to school everyday!

The EL Rise! series will continue through January. Please reach out to Nohemi Arroyo-Magana nmagana@mjuds.com to learn more.

PIQE COMES TO MJUSD

by Nohemi Arroyo-Magana,
ELD Program Specialist

PIQE (Parent Institute for Quality Education) is once again coming to MJUSD on an entirely virtual platform that will be available to all district parents through Zoom.

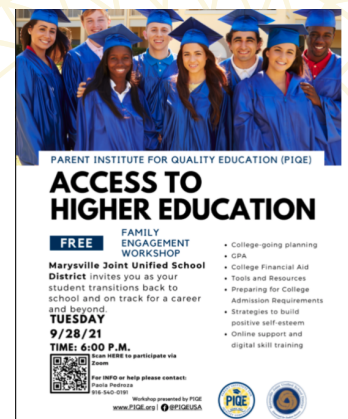
Please read the information below as our parents may reach out with inquiries about the free program. You may refer them to me at nmagana@mjuds.com, Paola Pedraza from PIQE at (916) 540-0191 or to the PIQE website at <https://www.piqe.org/>.

PIQE's mission is "To provide families with the knowledge and skills to partner with schools and communities to ensure their children achieve their full potential." PIQE will start recruiting families of our 6th-12th grade students through personalized phone calls, or emails and text messages starting the week of September 13th.

They will be conducting 2 different sessions for our families this Fall.

- The 8-week High School Program starts September 28th 6-7:15 pm
- The 8-week Middle School Program starts September 30th 6-7:15 pm

Please see flyers for more information. Thank you for all you do to support MJUSD families! I trust PIQE will have a tremendous impact on our community.





INDEPENDENT STUDY: BRIDGING THE INSTRUCTION GAP

by Dr. Rocco Greco, Executive Director of Student Engagement



Our main goal as educators is to make decisions with our students in mind and to always put them first. The past two school years have made that job particularly challenging, especially with the rise in cases related to the Delta variant of COVID-19.

While schools continue to be open for in-person instruction, a significant number of students have been quarantined and school staff have also been impacted by community spread. This has made maintaining instructional continuity more important than ever as state legislators and educators have reiterated that quarantine days should not be missed instructional days.

The Independent Study guidelines under AB 130 require school districts to provide ongoing Independent Study options for students with absences related to COVID-19.

Students who are absent for three days or longer can be placed on short-term Independent Study contracts and receive additional services virtually after regular school hours. Teacher's offering after-hours support will provide a persistent link for a set day and time to provide the required live instructional time as listed below:

1. Grades K-3: Daily synchronous instruction totaling 2.5 hours per week.
2. Grades 4-8: Live instruction at least one time per week for the duration of the absence.
3. Grades 9-12: Live instruction at least one time per week for the duration of the absence.

MJUSD is offering this service in order to meet our students' needs as best as possible during the ongoing pandemic. We are so grateful for the continuous hard work of our staff.

MJUSD VACCINE VERIFICATION AND TESTING PROGRAM

*by Courtney Tompkins,
Communication & Engagement Specialist*

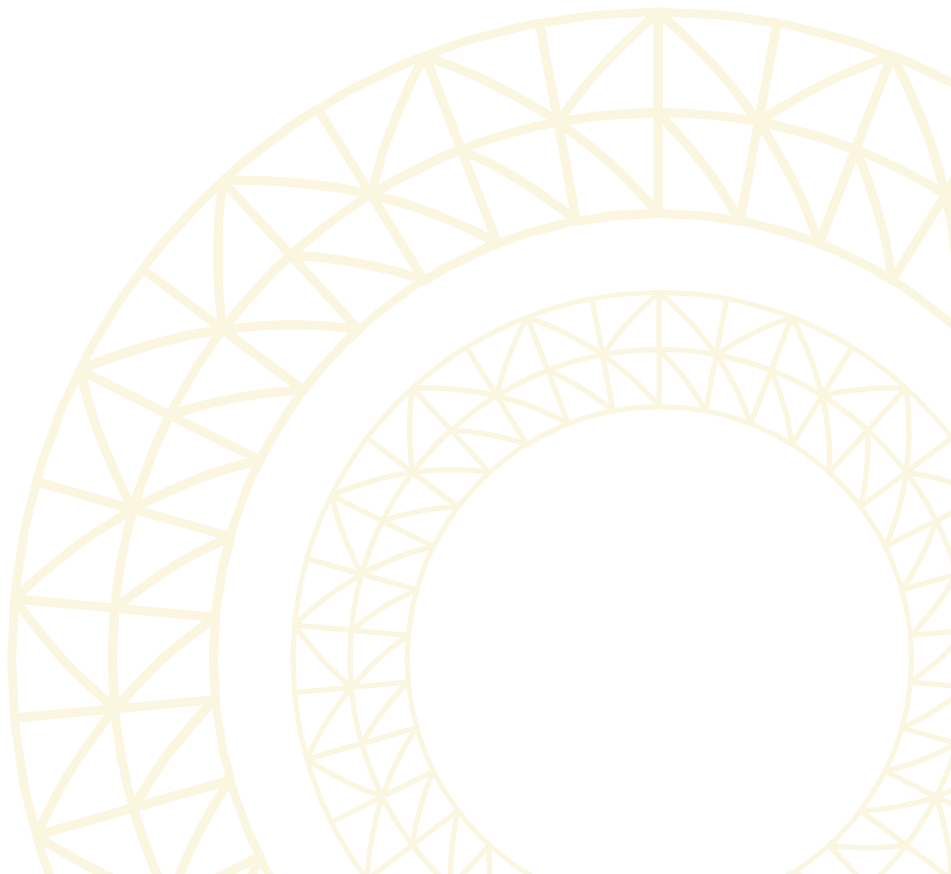


Marysville Joint Unified School District is one of over 1,000 school districts in California expected to comply with a statewide public health order that requires all school employees and volunteers to submit proof of vaccine verification or be tested COVID-19 at least once per week.

Since Gov. Gavin Newsom's announcement on Aug. 11, MJUSD administrators have been working to formulate a plan that complies with the new requirements and is accessible to all staff and volunteers. We have received questions from several of you and would like to thank you for sharing your thoughts with us so we can take everything into consideration as we work through this process.

Once a plan is finalized, it will be shared with all staff and volunteers prior to implementation, which is planned for the week of October 11. Please remember that some of the details are still being ironed out and additional information is forthcoming.

We would like to encourage you all to continue submitting your questions and/or concerns to vaccinationquestions@mjuds.com so we can take them into consideration as we finalize our plan and prepare for its implementation.





Abraham Lincoln
Principal David Gray
530-749-6105
dgray@mjUSD.com



Arboga Elementary
Principal Eric Preston
530-741-6101
epreston@mjUSD.com



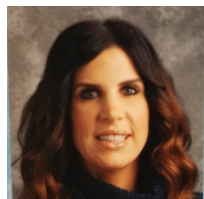
Browns Valley Elementary
Principal Heather Marshall
530-741-6115 ext. 3804
hmarshall@mjUSD.com



Cedar Lane Elementary
Principal Rebecca Evers
530-741-6112
revers@mjUSD.com



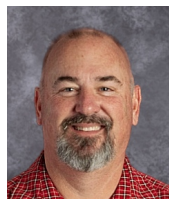
Community Day School
Principal David Gray
530-749-6105
dgray@mjUSD.com



Cordua Elementary
Principal Heather Marshall
530-741-6115 ext. 1804
hmarshall@mjUSD.com



Covillaud Elementary
Principal Kari Ylst
530-741-6121 ext. 4004
kylst@mjUSD.com



Dobbins Elementary
Principal Duane Triplett
530-692-1665 ext. 1204
dtriplett@mjUSD.com



Edgewater Elementary
Principal Lori Guy
530-741-0866 ext. 2004
lguy@mjUSD.com



Ella Elementary
Principal Jennifer McAdam
530-741-6124
jmcadam@mjUSD.com



Foothill Intermediate
Principal Ashley Vette
530-741-3204
avette@mjUSD.com



Johnson Park Elementary
Principal Tracy Pomeroy
530-741-6133
tpomeroy@mjUSD.com



Kynoch Elementary
Principal Derek Morrison
530-741-6141
dmorrison@mjUSD.com



Linda Elementary
Principal Randy Swann
530-741-6196
rswann@mjUSD.com



Lindhurst High School
Principal Bob Eckardt
530-741-6150 ext. 2503
beckardt@mjUSD.com



Loma Rica Elementary
Principal Ashley Vette
530-741-4204
avette@mjUSD.com



Marysville Charter
Academy for the Arts
Principal Tim Malone
530-749-6156
tmalone@mjUSD.com



Marysville High School
Principal Shevaun Matthews
530-741-6108 ext. 3102
smatthews@mjUSD.com



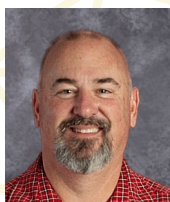
McKenney Intermediate
Principal Joe Seiler
530-741-6187
jseiler@mjUSD.com



Olivehurst Elementary
Principal Rob Gregor
530-741-6191 ext. 5804
mrgregor@mjUSD.com



South Lindhurst High School
Principal David Jones
530-749-6919
djones@mjUSD.com



Yuba Feather
Principal Duane Triplett
530-675-2382
dtriplett@mjUSD.com



Yuba Gardens Intermediate
Principal Jim Hays
530-741-6194 ext. 7004
jhays@mjUSD.com