

GOLD GAZETTE

The Official Newsletter of the Marysville Joint Unified School District



Highlights in this issue:

**DISTRICT STAFF DONATE
NEARLY 1,500 CANS OF
SOUP TO LOCAL FOOD BANK**

**LOMA RICA STUDENTS SET
SIGHTS ON BECOMING THE
DISTRICT'S 'CODING HUB'**

**EDGEWATER STUDENTS
SEND CARE PACKAGES TO
DEPLOYED BEALE SOLDIERS**

Greetings and Happy Holidays! This is the December issue of the Gold Gazette newsletter — and it's our last issue of the 2022 calendar year! This month we are highlighting some of the generosity we've seen across our district as staff and students come together to donate food and gifts for families in our community, some of whom are experiencing homelessness.

In this issue you will also get to know our new Board members and our new College & Career Specialist as well as learn about the district's efforts to create a Graduate Profile.

If you have a story idea for a future issue of the Gold Gazette, please email Courtney Tompkins at ctompkins@mjusd.k12.ca.us.



MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Happy Holidays!

It has been a busy month around the Marysville Joint Unified School District. Our schools and our students have put on some wonderful winter concerts, and dance and theatrical performances. Our staff members have also been busy supporting students and families in so many different ways. I am humbled by the generosity and support all around us.

For the last few months we have been working strategically to develop expansive partnerships with our community leaders. In addition to the guidance from Superintendent Advisory Committee members, which include City Manager Jim Schaad, Appeal Democrat Editor Robert Summa, Marysville Police Chief Chris Sachs, and Yuba-Sutter Arts & Culture Executive Director David Read, to name a few, we are meeting with Yuba County leaders to create ways to bring the schools and the community together.

One important suggestion that continues to guide the discussion is that our schools do not talk publicly about all the good things we are doing, the programs we offer, and the dynamic students and staff who grace our buildings. Instead, we get embroiled in negative comments related to isolated situations that do not define our community, our staff, and our students. Please visit our Facebook page, read our newsletters, and attend school events. Take the time to learn about us; you will be surprised at all that we offer.

For example, the Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts' Math Department team just won a 2022 Golden Bell Award from the California School Boards Association. This prestigious award promotes excellence in education. Marysville High School FFA student Benjamin Kanavalchuk was a national finalist at the 2022 FFA Convention, and fellow student, Jenissa Conway, accepted a full ride scholarship to play softball for the University of Michigan.

As I wish everyone a wonderful holiday season, I urge each of us to take a few minutes to identify all that is good in our schools. It is easy to look beyond our schools and admire other districts and think that maybe it will be better somewhere else. But stop and take a deep breath — your schools belong to your community, your students are part of our schools, and your neighbors are your child's friends. If we take pride in our schools, our students, and our staff, our community as a whole will benefit from that. Please join me in celebrating our schools and our students as we get ready to step into the holiday season.

Since joining the MJUSD community, there is so much I am grateful for, including each of you – our students, staff and families. I hope each of you has a relaxing and regenerating winter break.

Warm regards,



Fal Asrani, Ed.D.
Superintendent



MJUSD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Trustee Area 1

Term 2017-2024



Vice President Doug F. Criddle

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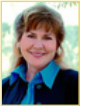
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Term 2022-2026



Member Chong Yang

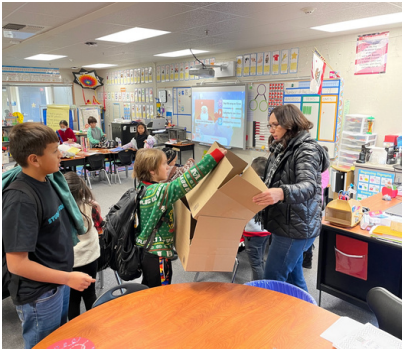
Trustee Area 3

Term 2022-2026



EDGEWATER STUDENTS SEND CARE PACKAGES TO DEPLOYED AIR FORCE TROOPS

by Courtney Tompkins, Public Information Officer



Edgewater Student Council President Oliver Embry gives a teacher a "care package" box so the students can fill it with goodies for deployed soldiers who are stationed at Beale Air Force Base.



Care packages are picked up on December 12, 2022, to be shipped to airmen and airwomen who are deployed overseas this holiday season.

Edgewater Elementary School students collected items to fill care packages for 30 Beale Air Force Base soldiers who are deployed this holiday season.

The project started with the students building empty boxes for each classroom to fill with goodies such as letters, games, books, hot cocoa, homemade snacks, and more! The care packages were collected earlier this week to be sent out in time for Christmas.

Did you know this is the Student Council's first school-wide community service project? Way to go, Sharks!! This is how we grow our future leaders!

DISTRICT STAFF DONATE NEARLY 1,500 CANS OF SOUP TO FEED HUNGRY FAMILIES



Way to go MJUSD! You rocked the Soups On competition.

We held a friendly competition at our district office to see who could donate the most cans of soup this holiday season. Thanks to our generous (and competitive) team members, we were able to donate close to 1,500 cans to the Food Bank and South Yuba Community Action Network (SoYouCan). It was a close competition until the very end and then Team 2 — the 2nd floor offices, technology and maintenance and grounds departments — pulled away with the win. Great job!

MJUSD SPREADS HOPE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON



Staff fill bags with pajamas to distribute to families along with gifts and food boxes.



District "Angel Tree" filled with families for staff members to adopt this holiday season.

This holiday season we are grateful to be able to provide a little extra support to our families and students who need it most. Earlier this month our MJUSD elves (aka staff members) filled bags with warm, cozy pajamas for more than 200 students who are experiencing homelessness. This week these families were given the bags of pajamas along with a box of food, Christmas gifts, and other items.

Local union partners provided generous donations to supply the food for these families, many of whom have been adopted this Christmas by our wonderful employees and other community members. Yuba County administrators and the Yuba County Probation Office's nonprofit, Agents of Change, also help us out tremendously each year by getting our families adopted by the community.

We are so blessed to be part of such a generous and caring community. Thank you for coming together this year and every year to support our students and our schools.

MEET YOUR NEW SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS: SETH STEMEN & CHONG YANG

Let's give a warm welcome to our two newest Board members – Mr. Seth Stemen and Dr. Chong Yang. They were both elected this November to serve four-year terms through 2026. We had an opportunity to get to know them both through a little Q & A. Here's a fun fact: both are graduates of Lindhurst High School.



Seth Stemen

1. Can you tell us a little bit about yourself? *I am a lifelong Yuba-Sutter resident, having lived in both counties, and MJUSD alumni. I attended both Johnson Park, and Olivehurst School, Yuba Gardens, Marysville High for 1 year, and graduated from Lindhurst High in 2000.*

2. Why did you run for office? *I ran for office because I have 2 little ones in this district. A second grader, and one in kindergarten. The last 2 years have been a real struggle for many, and I witnessed first hand the struggles that many other families were faced with during this time. I think this was a bit of a wake up for a lot of parents who started paying more attention to what our children were dealing with as well. I decided to run so I could be active in making meaningful decisions that would protect our kids, and community.*

3. What do you hope to accomplish during your term as a MJUSD trustee? *I hope to accomplish a return to normalcy in our schools. We are witnessing now some of the after effects of the last 2 years, and we are encountering new problems beginning to arise. I look to work on establishing prosperous relationships with our school's administrators, teachers, and staff to make meaningful change, adapt to these issues, and create solutions. My ultimate hope would be that our children could experience school the way I remember it, without so much negative outside influence.*

4. What do you do for work? *I earn a living in a few ways. Traditionally, I have been in private banking, investing, and managing my rental property. The last 2 years, I have been in mortgage lending. With the recent shift in the housing market, I have pivoted, and in addition to mortgage, I have begun employment with Yuba County - which has been great!*

5. What do you enjoy doing in your free time? *Camping! My family and I love to get away for long weekends and disappear to where it is quiet. When striper are running in our rivers, you can usually find me somewhere on a boat fishing for them.*

6. Are there any other fun facts you would like to share with the community? *I am kind of a low-key nerd. I have discovered a new love for fungus! When I'm out in the woods, I like to spend my time hunting for mushrooms with my kids. ONLY the good, edible ones though. I've spent a lot of time studying which to pick, and which to not. Nothing beats a freshly picked bolete, sautéed on a medium rare ribeye steak!*



Chong Yang

1. Can you tell us a little bit about yourself? *My family and I are refugees from Laos and were resettled in the US when I was five months old. I grew up on Pasado Road near the former site of Alicia Intermediate. I attended Cedar Lane Elementary, Alicia Intermediate, and Lindhurst High School. While in high school, I attended Yuba College as a dual enrollment enrollee. I earned a Bachelor's in Mechanical Engineering from Chico State, a Master's in Educational Technology from Sac State, and a Doctorate in Education from the University of the Pacific.*

2. Why did you run for office? *First, I would like to state what an honor it is to be a trustee representative for MJUSD. I ran for office because I can provide both a meaningful contribution and a broader perspective of the needs of our students, especially when using data (or rebuking the data) to inform our educational practices.*

3. What do you hope to accomplish during your term as a MJUSD trustee? *Regarding education, I strongly believe in shared governance; all stakeholders, from the taxpayers, educators, parents, and children, should have a participative voice in education. I want to be a good representative voice for my constituents and the students and families MJUSD serves. However, my top three priorities are closing the academic gap caused by covid and its response, reaffirming parental rights, and achieving excellence in education for all students.*

Board members (Chong Yang) continued on p. 4

Board members (Chong Yang) continued from p. 3

4. What do you do for work? *I am the Director of Enrollment Management Data Analytics and Operations at Chico State. In this role, I help the enrollment management group look at various auspices of data and provide recommendations for improving their enrollment strategies.*

5. What do you enjoy doing in your free time? *Besides volunteering within the community, I like reading, playing video games, overlanding, fishing, and camping. Of the items listed, my favorite thing to do is playing Minecraft with my daughter.*

6. Are there any other fun facts you would like to share with the community? *The most interesting fact that people find interesting about me is that I have been to 36 countries. I don't have a particular favorite designation or interest; however, I find my visits to Brunei the most fascinating of all my travels.*

MCAA WINS 2022 GOLDEN BELL AWARD



District administrators, board members, and MCAA staff at the 2022 California School Boards Association Conference in December where MCAA Principal James Lohman and Math Teacher Todd DeVlaming accepted a Golden Bell Award for the math program.

The Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts recently received a Golden Bell Award for its mathematics program. MCAA Principal James Lohman and Math Teacher Todd DeVlaming attended the California School Boards Association (CSBA) awards ceremony earlier this month along with district administrators and school board members to accept this prestigious award.

The CSBA Golden Bell Awards, now in its 43rd year, promotes excellence in education and school board governance by recognizing outstanding programs and governance practices throughout California.

MCAA was recognized for developing a math department program that seeks to increase proficiency levels in the annual statewide CAASPP testing and reduce the number of D's and F's students were receiving. The math interventions provide a safety net for all students. With this approach, the belief that all students can achieve in math is a reality.

Congratulations to MCAA Principal James Lohman and the Math Department team: Todd DeVlaming, George Land, Dallas McBride, Rich Valentini, and Chor Yang.



Our District Reads!

So far this school year, MJUSD students have read ...

92,909 BOOKS
281,889,947 WORDS
for **18** minutes per day!



COVILLAUD GIVES BAGS OF CHRISTMAS JOY TO STUDENTS, FAMILIES IN NEED

by Courtney Tompkins, Public Information Officer



Gift bags are lined up to distribute to 95 Covillaud Elementary School students whose families need a little extra help this holiday season.



Covillaud staff and administrators helped hand out holiday gift bags to students and their families on Dec. 13, 2022.



Covillaud Assistant Principal Dale Van Liew helps load holiday bags into a family's car during the Christmas gift giveaway on Dec. 13, 2022.

This week Covillaud staff lined up giant gift bags filled with toys, clothes, candy, toiletries, blankets, and more for nearly 100 students whose families need a little extra help this holiday season.

For about a week before the giveaway, the library serves “Santa’s Workshop” where everything is assembled and kept out of sight until it’s time for the Christmas giveaway. Covillaud Librarian Mary Lemmenes, who helped distribute the gift bags this week, said the kids get really excited when they see the bags come out. The annual Christmas gift giveaway at Covillaud has been happening for more than 30 years.

“It’s so much fun,” said Secretary Trina Hammons, who organizes the event. “When you do it for so many years, it just comes together. It doesn’t even feel like work.”

We can’t take all the credit for this incredible program, she continued, explaining that the community partnerships were formed by its founder Donna Cummings many years ago. Donna Cummings began this effort about 35 years ago to help local kids in need after getting to know some of Covillaud’s kids as a probation and school safety officer. Mrs. Cummings has since retired and handed the reins over to Mrs. Hammons.

Each year hundreds of volunteers from organizations and businesses including Sierra Central Credit Union, CalTrans, Ellyson Chiropractic, Girls Scouts, and AT&T Pioneers participate in the annual giveaway.

The day after this year’s giveaway, Mrs. Hammons said several students came running onto campus, proudly showing off their new outfits. She said it brought a big smile to the staff members’ faces; it’s those moments that make it all worthwhile.

AG BIO STUDENTS TEST WATER QUALITY IN YUBA RIVER

Marysville High School’s Sustainable Ag Bio classes visited the Yuba River at Hammon Grove Park earlier this month to complete a water quality testing lab. Working in the field and learning from local professionals is the best way to learn and apply knowledge. Thank you, Yuba Water Agency, for presenting to our classes and sponsoring this trip!



LOMA RICA STUDENTS ARE READY TO BE A 'CODING HUB' FOR MJUSD

by Ashley Vette, Principal

Loma Rica students impressed district leaders last month when they organized a series of presentations and wrote persuasive essays to convince administrators to invest in a license for Code Monkey, a computer programming software that teaches elementary students the basics of coding.

Rachel Ramsey's 4th/5th grade class was introduced to Code Monkey through a 30-day trial she signed up for after attending a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) conference this fall. After only one month, many students had surpassed their teacher in levels, and she now asks them for help. Knowing the trial would soon run out, Ms. Ramsey saw an opportunity for a teachable moment.

If students wanted to continue learning coding through a full version of the web-based program, Ms. Ramsey said they would need to convince the district to fund it. To do this, students began researching the need for coding and wrote persuasive essays based on their findings. They put together a proposal, created a digital presentation, and gave every student a speaking part. Over two days, the students then presented their findings to several district administrators, including the Superintendent and Chief Technology Officer.



Loma Rica staff and students celebrate success after Chief Technology Officer Bryan Williams announces a plan to fund the students' proposal.



Loma Rica students presented to district leaders.



Students congratulate each other after Chief Technology Officer Bryan Williams announced a plan to fund the proposal.

The students highlighted how coding ties into math and explained how learning to code fosters higher level thinking and problem solving. They also shared how coding teaches critical technology skills that are important for college and career readiness. The students even went a step further and offered to go into nearby classrooms to teach their peers about coding. They said the "teachers could take a break" while they take over the teaching duties!

Their impactful and persuasive presentation overwhelmingly convinced the district to fund the project; not only for the 4th/5th grade class, but for all classes at Loma Rica Elementary School.

Most students had never presented information to a group like this before. They were proud of their hard work and learned so much through the process. The biggest lesson may have been in the sense of accomplishment felt after they achieved their goal. It was clear to see how hard students worked on this proposal and how dedicated they are to expanding their learning in the field of STEAM education. Ms. Ramsey said her goal is to foster a sense of pride in learning and empower students to connect to the world around them; beyond the walls of the classroom. It looks like she accomplished that and more. Congratulations, Loma Rica, on a job well done!

MEET OUR NEW COLLEGE AND CAREER SPECIALIST: PAOLA SOTELO



Paola Sotelo

Paola Sotelo is the newest member of the College and Career Department. Paola was born in Chilpancingo, Mexico and raised in Yuba County. She is a proud product of MJUSD, having graduated from Marysville High School in 2012. She then went on to receive her B.A. in Social Ecology with a minor in Spanish at the University of California, Irvine in 2016. Over the course of the last 10 years, Paola has dedicated her time to working with low-income, first-generation students and helping them access higher education. She has experience working with districts throughout Orange and Los Angeles County including Anaheim, Compton, El Rancho, Long Beach, Orange, Paramount and Santa Ana. Paola hopes to bring her experience to MJUSD with the ultimate goal of helping increase A-G completion rates. Outside of her commitment to students, Paola enjoys spending time with her fur baby, Nalah, and her family.

Q: What drew you to becoming the College and Career Specialist at MJUSD?

A: I spent the last 10 years in southern California, but always knew I wanted to come back to support the students and families within my own community; I just never thought it would become a reality. Thank you to my friend, Nallely Ramirez, for sharing the job description and encouraging me to apply. I guess this is what you call fate! I am so excited to work in partnership with the school sites and families. This is home.

Q: What college did you attend?

A: University of California, Irvine. Go anteaters!!!

Q: How do you define success?

A: Every single day I strive to be 1% better than I was the day before. As long as I can learn one new thing or help someone out then I know I was successful for that day.

Q: What or who motivates you?

A: My mother is my motivation. She had me at a young age and I watched her make so many sacrifices in order to provide for my sister and I. Seeing her smile when I graduated high school was great, seeing her smile when I graduated college was even better, but seeing her excitement for me to be back home and working at the district has by far been the best. At the same time, I know that I am going to be the person in my family to break generational barriers and that motivates me more than ever.

Q: What's something about you (a fun fact) that not many people know?

A: I know how to juggle. Shout out to my 5th grade math teacher at Covillaud, Mr. Morgan!

Q: What is your favorite hobby?

A: Basketball. I learned how to play in third grade and the rest was history. I actually made Marysville's Varsity team as a freshman. Some may ask what my favorite basketball team is, but I am more into players versus teams. If I had to pick, of course it would be the Sacramento Kings because they are local, but I did spend 10 years in southern California and have enjoyed supporting the Los Angeles Lakers.

Q: Are you currently binge-watching any shows?

A: I binge-watch too many shows, but right now I am watching One Tree Hill, Gilmore Girls, White Lotus, and The Patient.

Q: If you had to eat one meal every day for the rest of your life, what would it be?

A: My mom's enchiladas! She always switches it up with red or green sauce, chicken or cheese and you can't forget about the toppings like lettuce, tomatoes, sour cream and more cheese. They are just DELISH!

Q: Do you have a favorite fandom?

A: I absolutely love Harry Potter!

MCKENNY MUSIC PROGRAM IS SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS

By Amanda Lopes, Instrumental Music Teacher



McKenney students perform at their Winter Concert on Dec. 1, 2022.



McKenney students perform at their Winter Concert on Dec. 1, 2022.



Music Teacher Amanda Lopes conducts the McKenney Choir during their Winter Performance on Dec. 1, 2022.

The McKenney Music Program might have struggled a little bit during the pandemic but thanks to the leadership of a new music teacher the program is soaring to success.

The McKenney Music Program includes choir, ukulele, woodwind, brass, and percussion classes that all combine to make our middle school band. Of the 133 students who are participating in the program, there are 17 choir students, 36 ukulele students, and 80 band students.

Our students have grown tremendously over the past four months. **We even have four students participating in the 6th Grade Honor Band held by the California Music Educators Association on January 7th in Sacramento!** The students will be performing with about 60 other 6th grade music students from middle schools across the Sacramento region.

McKenney's student musicians have performed in a number of places, including at our rally, annual Turkey Trot event, and during a Marysville High School football game. We also took a field trip to Yuba College earlier this year to watch the Sierra Nevada Winds perform – one of the top Wind Bands in the Sacramento region! Lastly, we had our Winter Concert on December 1st and had a packed house.

If you missed the winter concert, don't fret. You still have opportunities to see our student musicians in the spring! Here are the upcoming performances:

March 2nd at 6:00 pm, MJUSD Choir Concert (location TBD)

March 8th at 6:00 pm, MJUSD Band Concert (location TBD)

May 11th at 7:00 pm, McKenney Spring Concert in the Gym

MHS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM BOASTS SUCCESSFUL SEASON

by Carlene McCarty, Teacher & Parent



The MHS Cross Country team.

The Marysville High School Varsity Boys team placed 2nd in the Pioneer Valley League. Although the team lost a few players throughout the season, these athletes kept up their grades, worked hard, and never gave up. They always strived for the best, trying to "PR" (beat their personal record) at every race. Coach Yvonne Smith (MHS Science teacher) and assistant coaches Sam Teasdale (MHS alumni), Michelle Caldwell (MHS Probation Officer), and Victoria (MHS alumni) have done an amazing job with this team!

The team is composed of: freshman Riley McCarty; sophomore Geo Sanchez; juniors Josiah Montero, Angel Diaz, Davion Santiago; and seniors Austin Miller, Angelo Agurica,

Cross Country continued on p. 9

Three athletes medal in Cross Country at Frogtown Subsections

The MHS Cross Country team also participated in the Frogtown Subsections on Saturday, November 5th in Angels Camp where three athletes earned medals. Congratulations to Angel Diaz for placing 25th and medaling in the Varsity boys race; Ellie Cherry for placing 15th and medaling in the JV girls race; and Riley McCarty for placing 10th and medaling in the Frosh/Soph race!

Not just a team, but a family

As a parent of a team member and one of the team drivers, I have to say that I have yet to meet a group of teenagers that are more polite, kind, and appreciative than the MHS Cross Country team. I was thanked after every practice or race that I drove kids to and was always made to feel like part of the cross country family. The camaraderie among teammates of different ages and backgrounds was heartwarming to witness. Not only do they encourage each other, but can always be heard encouraging other teams at races as well. The credit really goes to the parents and coaches for a job well done with these athletes!



Cross Country athletes show off the medals they won at Frogtown Subsections.

Senior Farewell

Farewell to seniors Mason Babb, Austin Miller, Angelo Agurica, Ellie Cherry, and Ariana Mendoza, who were great role models and teammates throughout the season. They looked out for the underclassman and were always there with words of encouragement. They will be missed!

MJUSD IS CREATING A GRADUATE PROFILE AND WE WANT YOUR HELP

by Dr. Amy Murray, District Coordinator of Educational Services

We all want our children to graduate from high school fully equipped with all of the tools and skills that they need to be successful in life. To this end, the Marysville Joint Unified School District, along with the community, is creating a Graduate Profile (sometimes called a Profile of a Graduate or a Learner Profile.) Together with educational partners (including parents, students, staff, and community members) we will spotlight the critical, core competencies that all of our MJUSD students should possess when they graduate. Our Graduate Profile will reflect our dreams, values, hopes, and aspirations for our young people.

What is a graduate profile?

You may or may not be familiar with the idea of a Graduate Profile although it's not an entirely new concept. A Graduate Profile is a well-developed document that a school or district uses to specify the academic, personal, and interpersonal competencies that students should have developed by the time that they graduate from high school. For example, the graduate profile might list attributes such as: the motivation to continue lifelong learning, the skills to adapt to changing technology, and/or the ability to problem-solve and make decisions.

Why create a Graduate Profile?

The Profile is a **clear visualization of priority goals for teaching and learning** that can be easily communicated to students, parents, staff, and the community to align our collective efforts. Furthermore, the Graduate Profile will help guide us in implementing an equity-centered education system with identified preparation benchmarks at each of the grade levels.



Graduate Profile continued on p. 10

How do we build a Graduate Profile?

The Graduate Profile project started in September 2022, and it will continue until April, 2023. The first step in this project involved conducting a survey in October 2022. The survey was sent to all education partners through email and it was also posted on our MJUSD website. All of our community members were invited to provide input through the survey and over 535 responses were recorded. Next, a leadership group was formed in order to further organize and guide this project.

At this time, we are planning to conduct a series of meetings with educational partners in winter 2023. At these meetings we will review survey data and continue to gather additional information and feedback from various perspectives. The final step will be designing the Graduate Profile report and presenting it to the school board in the spring.

Who will be involved in the process?

Be on the lookout for more information as we journey through the Graduate Profile design process together. A series of parent meetings, community meetings, and staff meetings will be happening soon, and you are invited to participate. These meetings will provide more opportunities for dialogue and input from many voices.

In fact, conversations about the Graduate Profile have already started with some of our Student Engagement and Leadership team members, composed of MJUSD middle school and high school student body officers. This group meets monthly at a Student Forum to discuss how to improve student-centered learning across the district. The students have begun to ask critical questions about this process, such as:

- What skills and competencies do our students need to develop to be successful in the 21st Century?
- What will those competencies look like?
- How would we develop those competencies?

What comes next?

The Graduate Profile, once it is board-adopted, will serve as our community's "North Star" to guide us as we move forward and grow as a school system. For example, we may consider progress indicators at specific grade levels; strategic leadership and/or teacher actions to develop specific competencies. There is much exciting work ahead of us in the years to come as we develop a course of action to meet the goals that the Graduate Profile sets forth. Once we've defined our expectations for students, we must then create conditions that make the vision a reality. This idea is at the heart of our commitment to creating a Graduate Profile.

If you are a parent or community member who would like to join in the conversation, please plan to attend a parent/community meeting at the Marysville Joint Unified School District Office Board Room on these dates:

Monday, January 23, 2023 from 4-5pm (in-person)
Monday, February 27, 2023 from 4-5 pm (in-person)
Monday, March 20, 2023 from 5:30 - 6:30pm on Zoom

Please RSVP by completing this Google form: [Graduate Profile Parent/Community Input Meeting](#). If you have any questions, please contact Courtney Tompkins at ctompkins@mjusd.k12.ca.us.

OUTSTANDING STAFF AND STUDENTS WE ARE CELEBRATING THIS MONTH

Thank you for all of your November nominations! It's clear that we have some stellar students and staff members who are making a positive impact across the district. Here are the winners for the month of November:



STUDENTS:

Camila Torres, Cedar Lane Elementary School *Camila is performing well in all academic areas. She is very responsible and is working hard to be successful this school year. Awesome job so far, Camila!*

Emmanuel Morales, Edgewater Elementary School *He said he fits the good student profile because he wants to make his mom and dad proud of him. He always does everything he is asked to do in and out of class.*

Paislee Allison, Ella Elementary School *Paislee is a good friend to all. Paislee always wants to lend a helping hand without asking. She is someone who you can count on to cheer any of her friends up if they're having a bad day. Thank You Paislee for being a great example to your fellow Ella Gators.*

Cheyenne Fletcher, Arboga Elementary School *Cheyenne is a hard worker who always puts forth 100% effort. When I was absent, the substitute said she was a tremendous help. I appreciate not only her work ethic, but also her kind heart.*

Maximilian Mora, Arboga Elementary School *Max always follows the ROARS, both in the classroom and on the playground. He completes his work and puts in his best effort. He is also a leader and is kind to everyone. He will notice a peer needing someone to play with/be in a group with and will invite them to join him without hesitation.*

Chamille Clark, Cedar Lane Elementary School *Chamille is a hard worker and has been doing great things in our class. She is also a wonderful friend to her peers and is a team player. Thank you Chamille for being you.*

Anayi Wimmer, Cedar Lane Elementary School *Anayi is such a sweet and kind person. She is helpful, a hard worker, and responsible. I can always count on her to make good choices. She is a fabulous Cedar Lane Wildcat.*

Christopher Borja, Cedar Lane Elementary School *Christopher is a kind and caring person. He visits my classroom everyday just to say hi and always asks if I need help with anything. He brings a smile to my face each day. Thank you Christopher for being you.*

STAFF:

Shannon Fryan, Outreach Consultant at Olivehurst Elementary School *Shannon is a bright light around campus. Her presence brings a smile to your face and she is adored by both the students and her co-workers. She is always a phone call away and will do her best to help you in whatever way is needed. Thank you for all that you do to make our campus a positive and loving atmosphere. We appreciate you!*

Chris Babb, Teacher at Kynoch Elementary School *Chris is always willing to help in any capacity needed. He helps with understanding new programs, technology issues, he shares resources, and much more. He is an educator who is invested and is willing to serve in any way he can.*

Tracy Hutchinson, At-risk Student Support Specialist at McKenney Intermediate School *Tracy is a jack of all trades. From representing our campus in Student Attendance Review Board meetings, serving as our athletic director, monitoring student behavior to dressing up in a turkey suit, Tracy does it all. He is a true asset to our school.*

Kenny Her, Counselor at Lindhurst High School *Mr. Her is an amazing counselor! Most of the work he does goes under the radar and he never seeks the awards and attention. Mr. Her spends countless hours building and coaching our future and current tennis players. We joke all the time that he's the "Head Counselor" in the office but he really is! This is my 6th year working with Mr. Her and I still learn from him every day.*

Recognitions continued on p. 12

Alina Shelton, Resource Specialist Paraeducator at Kynoch Elementary School *Mr. Ali really loves working with the students. They put in lots of their own time, especially during the holidays to make things magical for the students and to help the students succeed in their endeavors.*

Alicia Wiggins, Teacher at Marysville High School *Wiggins is the most amazing colleague I have ever had the pleasure of bonding with so quickly. In all my years of teaching I have never met someone who supports students and her department with such conviction and love. Like her contributions to MHS are endless. From her dedication to student success to elevating nurturing of her colleagues' success. She advocates for everyone to shine the brightest they can each day and my daily experience glows because she validates me as a person and fellow math teacher.*

Nicole Burgess, Teacher at Ella Elementary School *Thank you Nicole for bringing holiday cheer to Ella. We appreciate you organizing our Secret Santa activity and our staff holiday breakfast.*

Alicia Stokes, Counselor at Marysville High School *Alicia is a true gift to our students. Time and again I have students tell me how she helped them through their darkest hours. It's an honor to work with her.*

Justin Noreen, Outreach Consultant at Marysville High School *Justin goes above and beyond whenever needed. I needed some very last minute help and he was able to jump in and save the day for a student. Thank you, Justin!*

Grace Inman, Secretary at Abraham Lincoln Independent Study Program *Grace is an awesome member of the staff! She is the glue that holds our school site together. We love that Grace helps keep us all in line and moving toward our goals.*

SO THANKFUL EVENT WAS A SUCCESS! A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

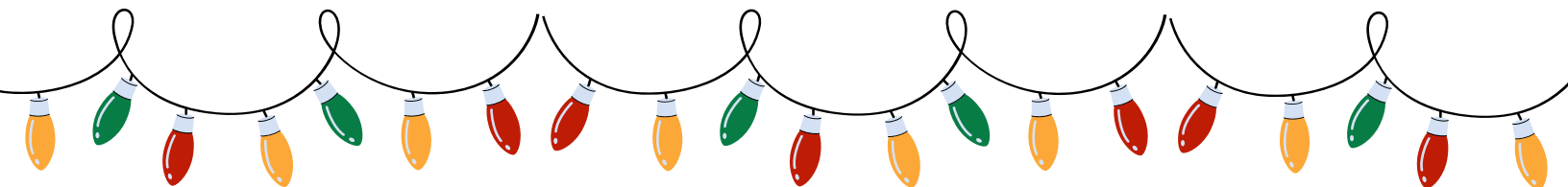


by Nallely Ramirez, Administrative Secretary III

We are SO THANKFUL for the community members who banded together last month to give back to our families. During the week of Thanksgiving, we hosted two "So Thankful" events where families could come to pick up free coats, blankets, hats, and scarves, as well as get free haircuts, dental checkups, and more! Members of our MJUSD health services team, homeless outreach program, after-school program, and student outreach were also on hand to share information and resources with families. Thank you all for working so hard to keep our students and families connected.

A special thanks to all our community partners and volunteers:

- **Blue Zone Wellness Group** - Courtney Finstad, Cristina Espinoza
- **Dannos Barber Shop** - Xavier Quintana
- **Happy Tooth Mobile** - Ronda Bowers, Stephanie Sandoval, Selina Garibay, Suki Mahal, Jocelyn Puente
- **MJUSD Health Services** - Alyssa Emerson
- **MJUSD Homeless Outreach Program for Education** - Amanda Book
- **MJUSD Extended Learning Opportunities** - Pete Pantoja, Natalie Karnegas
- **MJUSD Outreach Consultants** - Anna Mitchell, Rocio Rodriguez, Felisa Guerrica, Angela Gresham
- **Peach Tree Health** - Amira Lindbloom, Elisandra Becerra,
- **Volunteers** - Samantha Kokes (Edgewater School - haircuts), Maria Begonia
- **Yuba County Office of Education** - Claudia Counts
- **Yuba County One Stop** - Purnia Burke, Bryan Boyes
- **Yuba County Probation Department** - DPO Kereiona Johnson
- **Yuba County Sheriff's Office** - SRO Matthew Griffin



DECEMBER SCHOOL SITE NEWSLETTERS



Browns Valley Elementary



Covillaud Elementary



Dobbins Elementary



Edgewater Elementary



Ella Elementary



Foothill Intermediate



Johnson Park Elementary



Kynoch Elementary



Linda Elementary



Lindhurst High School



Loma Rica Elementary



Marysville High School



McKenney Intermediate



South Lindhurst High School



Abraham Lincoln
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Arboga Elementary
Principal Eric Preston
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Browns Valley Elementary
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Cedar Lane Elementary
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Covillaud Elementary
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Dobbins Elementary
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Ella Elementary
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Foothill Intermediate
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Johnson Park Elementary
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Kynoch Elementary
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Academy for the Arts
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Marysville High School
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Director Bob Eckardt
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Olivehurst Elementary
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South Lindhurst High School
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Yuba Feather
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Yuba Gardens Intermediate
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