August 2023 Vol. 3 Issue 1

GOLD GAZETTE

The Official Newsletter of the Marysville Joint Unified School District







Highlights in this issue:

MIDDLE COLLEGE ACADEMY OFFICIALLY OPENS

SUMMER INTERNSHIPS PROVIDE GLIMPSE INTO CAREERS

STATE OF OUR SCHOOLS BUS TOUR HIGHLIGHTS FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS

This is the August issue of the Gold Gazette newsletter. Each month we distribute our newsletter to the families of our students to improve communication and increase engagement. It's important that our students and their families understand all of the wonderful happenings throughout our district.

In this issue, you will discover information about back to school, community outreach, summer programs and opportunities to engage with your school and the district.

If you have a story idea for a future issue of the Gold Gazette, please email Kary Hauck at kary@sapphiremarketinggroup.net.



MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Greetings MJUSD Family:

Welcome back to the 2023-2024 school year! Schools are full of happy and excited students and staff. We started with approximately 350 more students than last year! We thank you for choosing to be part of our MJUSD family.

Parents, you asked for opportunities for acceleration and advanced academics. We have delivered! GATE programs in elementary and Honors courses in the middle schools are in full swing along with additional Advanced Placement (AP) courses in the high schools. We also opened our new high school, the Middle College Academy, on the campus of Yuba College. 15 freshmen have started there and they will earn their AA degree and high school diploma at the same time. Read about these stories and more in this edition.

We have focused a lot on upgrading our schools to support the teaching and learning environment. Click the link to the right to watch the video and see the incredible work underway.

Parents and guardians, join me at the upcoming Let's Connect zoom meetings at 10 am or 6 pm on Monday, September 11. The zoom link will be sent to you on Parent Square. This is your chance to talk directly with me and share your thoughts, ideas and concerns, as you help me to take our district to the next level of excellence. I will also be meeting with you at your school sites throughout the year. Your Principals will provide you the dates and times so look out for those. These opportunities to engage with you are truly important as we look to improve the educational experience for all students.

Wishing all of you a great school year. Stay safe, stay happy and stay engaged. Watch our Welcome Back video to learn about MJUSD In partnership,

Fal Asrani, Ed.D.

Fal Asrani, Ed.D. Superintendent

MJUSD BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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

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Watch the Infrastructure video on our website



Watch the "Welcome Back" video on our website



MJUSD IS BACK TO SCHOOL!



















School began on August 9th for all students attending MJUSD schools! The beginning of the school year is a time for new beginnings - a clean slate for students to set goals to reach new heights. All district administrators were at each of the school sites with donuts to welcome teachers and staff back to campus. Superintendent Dr. Asrani and her team were on-hand throughout the district to welcome new students and greet teachers and administrators at the start of the day.

Everyone anxiously awaited our students return from summer break, including our parents! The student population across our district is growing and we have a substantial number of new TK students. There are now Early Education programs at nine centers across the district!

There was a lot of excitement as new administrators were busy meeting the community and introducing themselves. Below (left to right), you can see the picture of Mr. Seiler (Arboga School), Ms. Dow (Covillaud School) and Mr. Hane (McKenney School) with Dr. Asrani as we celebrated back to school.







MIDDLE COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL (MCHS)

MCHS is opening it's doors this year and we are excited to be launching this program for students in the Yuba - Sutter area. The school is located in the 700 Building on the Yuba College campus (Marysville) both high school and college, will be held there.

An academic plan is developed for each student that is guided by a counselor from the college and MCHS staff. Students have the chance to earn their high school diploma and complete two years of college, focusing on their discipline of choice. This pathway gives students a big head start when transferring to a four-year university, saving both time and considerable money in tuition. For those students who are motivated to earn a national certification in a high-wage, high-skill profession such as industrial manufacturing, nursing or other fields, they can be well on their way to having completed a certification program. 9th grade spots are still available. For more information visit middlecollege.mjusd.com or call 530-740-6429.





MARYSVILLE SCHOOL FOR ADULTS - CLASSES STARTING SOON

The Marysville School for Adults offers coursework and programs for adults in our community to earn their high school diploma, prepare for the GED, para educator exam, learn English and participate in our Parent Academy. Registration is available on our website and we have morning, afternoon and evening classes available to meet the needs of your schedule. Our Parent Academy Schedule will be sent home to all MJUSD families which will include seminars in Financial Literacy, Mental Health, Parenting and more.

Adult Education classes are beginning August 30, 2023 and registration for classes is available on our website: <u>adulted.mjusd.com</u> Need help, or have questions? Give us a call at 530-740-6420.



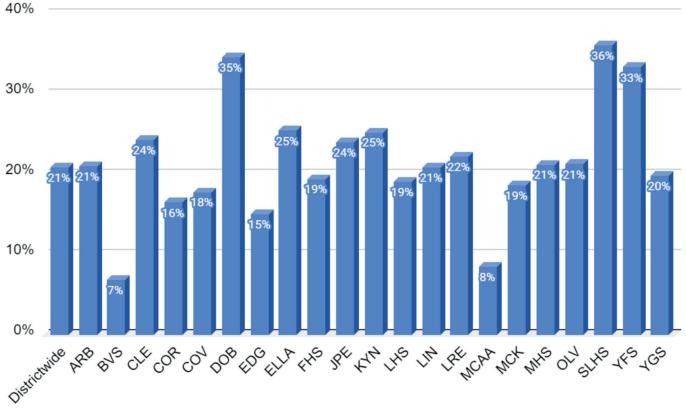
EVERYDAY COUNTS!

ATTENDANCE, DISCIPLINE AND SAFETY

BY: ZACH PLESS, DIRECTOR OF STUDENT WELFARE & ATTENDANCE

Did you know that students missing just two days a month can significantly impact your student's ability to succeed in school? Essential learning happens daily; if your student is out, they miss these lessons. Students who miss 10% of a school year or 18 days are considered chronically absent.

Last year, we had 21% of students who were chronically absent districtwide. Below is a chart showing chronic absentee rates at individual schools for the 2022-23 school year.



Over 40 years of research have confirmed the impact of school attendance on educational achievement.

- Nationally, only 17% (1 in 6) of the students who were chronically absent in kindergarten and 1st grade read at grade level when they got to third grade.
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school, and by 9th grade, absenteeism is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8th-grade test scores.
- Students are 25% more likely to drop out of High School if they miss 5-9 days a semester.

The most important thing you can do for your child's future is to establish a pattern of showing up and good attendance. If it is a struggle to get your student to school, please contact us so we can be part of the solution.



MEET OUR NEW SCHOOL SITE ADMINISTRATORS



Merrill Grant, Principal Lindhurst High School



Patrick O'Brien, Principal Linda School



James Lohman, Principal Director of Community Partnerships



Karen Dow, Principal Covillaud School



Joe Seiler, Principal Arboga School



Melissa White, Principal Browns Valley & Cordua Schools



Michelle Higgins, Principal Dobbins & Yuba Feather Schools



Troy Hane, Principal McKenney School



Eric Preston, Principal Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts



Keith Carlson, Vice Principal Lindhurst High School



Kevin Xiong, Vice Principal Johnson Park Elementary



Erin Fischetti, Vice Principal McKenney School

MJUSD AND YCOE PARTNER ON BACK TO SCHOOL BASH



More than 2,000 MJUSD families attended the Back to School Bash, an event designed to prepare students to return to school. This is the first year in which MJUSD and Yuba College Office of Education (YCOE) partnered to provide free backpacks, school supplies, haircuts (Upper Cuts) and immunizations to local students. Hundreds received a backpack for back to school and hundreds more went on a waiting lists. Nearly 2,000 backpacks were provided in total.

Dr. Asrani introduced the concept of a Back to School Bash last year and the team completed this event during Thanksgiving week. The response was overwhelming and it was decided that an event at the beginning of the year would be more meaningful to our students and families to get ready for school. By partnering with the YCOE, this will now become an annual event

The free event featured complimentary Mexican food from Cisco's Taqueria and free snow cones from Snowy Magic. The Marysville Fire Dept. attended, giving children the opportunity to "touch a truck" and several local health clinics attended with information about immunizations.







MJUSD HOSTS STATE OF OUR SCHOOLS BUS TOUR AND DINNER

MJUSD hosted a State of the Schools Bus Tour and Dinner on Thursday evening, July 27th. This event was the first of its kind where the attendees, community and business leaders, came together to visit our schools and talk over dinner regarding the growth happening in Yuba County and how that growth will impact the enrollment number in our schools and the needs for more classrooms and improved facilities.

It was wonderful to see the excitement that was on display regarding our schools. The guided bus tour was conducted by district administrators and the buses went to 16 schools. Seeing the new construction at Covillaud and Foothill and the location for the new track and field facilities at Lindhurst and Marysville high schools generated a lot of conversation around the improvements happening. We also shared a booklet that included work completed with the bond dollars prior to 2020 and completed and in-progress projects between 2021-2025. Apart from the Arboga school building that was completed this past year and partly funded by the bond dollars, all other improvements since 2021 are from district general funds which means there were no bond dollars involved. Almost 73 million dollars of upgrades have been completed or scheduled for completion between 2021-2025.

The bus tour was the first of many more to come. At MJUSD, we understand that the schools belong to the community so we encourage the community to roll up their sleeves and get engaged in improving our schools in every way. Our staff, teachers and administrators are all committed to our students' success; we need your support to get to the next level. Our students deserve the best education in the best learning environment which includes clean and upgraded facilities

I want to thank the community for your belief in our schools. Know that our students are the single most important factor in how we support our schools. We need to create a school environment that is safe and secure. We cannot do this work alone. We need your help.

SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

Choosing the right career path as a teenager in high school can be daunting. What type of work environment will I enjoy? How do I even get started in my desired field? How many different roles are available within the field that interest me? This summer, the MJUSD Summer Internship Program has been established in order to help students investigate and discover answers to these questions. By getting immersed into local businesses, summer intern students are able to get a hands-on, real-life look into the career field of their choice.

This summer, MJUSD students are currently interning at two local Marysville businesses, 93Q Community Radio and The Law Office of Brian J. Davis, acting Yuba County Public Defender. Through the internship with 93Q Radio, interns are getting exposure to everything that goes on behind the scenes in community radio, from the ground floor to the top of the radio tower. These interns are getting the opportunity to flex their communication skills through inperson community events and interviewing each other in the newly developed podcast studio. They are also honing their production skills through writing and producing their own mock radio segment. In between these projects, the interns get the chance to watch how the morning radio show is produced both in front of the mic and behind the dials. "This internship has been really fun. I feel like I'm already very familiar with the equipment and processes because of my Multimedia Production classes, but this is just a more professional setting. I'm happy to have come in with some familiarity." - Lindhurst High School Senior.

The internship hosted by the Law Office of Brian Davis is allowing a special look into court proceedings from the view of the Public Defender. This intern is getting the chance to watch arraignments in person and familiarize themselves with laws and legal terminology daily. "I was surprised that I am already familiar with many laws by their code. I didn't realize I already knew so many." - Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts Junior. Through this internship, this student also gets to see how a business office runs, including clerical duties and communicating with a wide array of community members.

Along with this hands-on experience, MJUSD interns are enrolled in a 4 week online class where they are exploring their career interests utilizing California CareerZone. This online tool is helping them set up a realistic budget, see the job growth within industries, and use tools to find what type of career really matches their personalities and future goals.

These summer internships are just the beginning for the summer internship program here at MJUSD. We are looking forward to offering many more internship opportunities with our local workforce. If your student or business is interested in a 2023/24 internship, contact Becca Rolufs, Work-Based Learning Specialist at brolufs@mjusd.kl2.ca.us or 530-749-6917.



CTE TEACHER EXTERNSHIPS

Students are not the only ones afforded the opportunity to immerse themselves in industry. A CTE Teacher Externship program has been designed as a unique professional development opportunity to connect classroom learning and the workplace. Teacher externships provide an experience in which teachers spend time in industry to learn through direct experience about trends, skill requirements, labor market information, and opportunities in industries related to their CTE pathway to enrich and strengthen their teaching and bring relevance to student learning.

Externships expose CTE teachers to authentic current workplace functions or conditions that can enhance classroom learning experiences and content learning strategies that are applied in the workplace. Connecting theory and practice to bring an understanding of workplace practices and policies (e.g. problem-solving methods, practical applications of theory, and leadership concepts) is an additional benefit. For more information on the CTE Teacher Externship Program, contact Jami Larson, Director of College and Career at jlarson@mjusd.kl2.ca.us or 530-749-6160.

MJUSD ENGAGES WITH COMMUNITY AT YUBA CITY SUMMER STROLL AND THE MARYSVILLE PEACH FESTIVAL



James Lohman talks with families about programs offered at MJUSD during the Yuba City Summer Stroll in June.



Several members of our team braved the heat to showcase our top ten programs at the 22nd Annual Marysville Peach Festival in July.



Our Vistrict Reads!

How many books will our students read this year?

0 BOOKS 0 WORDS for ??? minutes per day!



HIGH SCHOOL FFA PROGRAMS SHINE AT YUBA-SUTTER FAIR

Marysville and Lindhurst High School FFA students participated in the Yuba-Sutter Fair held June 22-25, 2023. For more than 160 years the Yuba-Sutter Fair has been showcasing the talents and achievements of our local youth in the Yuba-Sutter area. The Junior Livestock Competitive Exhibits Program allows students the opportunity to showcase livestock projects.

Almost 70 students participated in the fair; nine students from Lindhurst and 57 students from Marysville High showed and sold projects in Ag Mechanics, rabbits, turkeys, market lamb, market goats, market pigs, and market steers. This year the following students were recognized at the Fair:

Lindhurst High School

Goats: Alyssa Aldrete 5th in Market and 3rd in showmanship

Lambs: Elizabeth Silva 8th in showmanship

Pigs: Erika Rivera Vargas 5th in Market and Kaylie Killingsworth placed 7th in showmanship with her pig

Steers: Ella Peterson placed 2nd in Market and 4th in showmanship

Turkey: Yalonie Armstrong placed 2nd in Market

Ag vocational projects: Hunter Braden - sold his picnic table in auction and Samuel Kloncs - sold his side

table in auction

Marysville High School

Rabbits: Katie Davalos - Champion FFA & Reserve Supreme Pen of Rabbits and Reserve Champion Novice Showman and Richie Mendoza: Reserve Champion FFA Pen of Rabbits - shown by Autumn Wilson - Champion Advanced Rabbit and 3rd in Small Animal Round Robin

Turkeys: Gabe Rounsaville - Champion FFA Turkey & Champion Market Hen, Kevin Madrigal - Reserve FFA Turkey & Reserve Market Hen, Caleb Gray - Champion Market Tom, Jacob Neves - Reserve Champion Novice & Reserve Champion Advanced Turkey Showman

Sheep: Mary Campos-Reserve Novice Sheep Showman, Serafin Alverez - Reserve Champion Bred and Fed-

Swine: Danika Fuentes-4th Place Advanced Pig Showman

Beef: FFA Reserve Champion Slick Shorn, Jarrett Lassaga - 3rd in Advanced Showmanship, Taelynn DeMott-3rd overall Slick Shorn, Nevaeh Ramirez - 3rd in Novice FFA Beef Showmanship

We congratulate all our students for their hard work and commitment to this program and thank our teachers and parents for their support in making this program such an outstanding experience for students. If you would like more information on the Agriculture Pathways program offered at both Lindhurst and Marysville High School, please contact Ms. Jami Larson, Director, College and Careers at jlarson@mjusd.kl2.ca.us.







BUILDING & GROUNDS DEPARTMENTS IS HARD AT WORK



Portable classrooms have been placed at Foothill School, providing a learning space while the school is being modernized.



Construction of the new 16-classroom building at Covillaud School is moving quickly and expected to open to students in December 2024.

No rest for the Buildings & Grounds Department this summer! We are popping with projects. Here are just a few highlights:

Outstanding job by Doug Trower, Director of Buildings & Grounds; Kevin Little; and Daniel Stevens; and Van Pelt Construction Services completing a 16-portable interim campus in 40 days. Foothill Intermediate students and staff will reside in this interim campus for the 2023-24 school year while their building will be modernized with up-to-date classrooms.

Walls are being built at Covillaud. This summer the footings, foundation, and underground utilities were completed. Construction is on-schedule. Over the 2023-24 school year, students can watch their new classroom building constructed.

Lindhurst High School had lots of activities on campus this summer. Asphalt was replaced near the Ag Shop. The security fencing is complete and looks great! Track renovation plans are being reviewed by the Division of State Architects (DSA) and should be approved by the end of August.. The next steps are selecting a general contractor and an estimated start date of September 18th.

Marysville High School track renovations are in the design phase. The Board approved moving the track north, allowing room for an eight-lane regulation track and a regulation-sized soccer field. Gym floors are in the process of being replaced and should be completed in mid-August. Engineered wood flooring will replace the original rubber flooring and bring the gym up to par with the other area high schools.

SUMMER SCHOOL

Marysville Joint Unified School District provided many exciting opportunities to offer our students during the summer. Summer school was offered to all our TK - 6th graders at two different sites: Edgewater Elementary and Cedar Lane Elementary. Teachers' instructional time ran from 8:30am - 12:30pm. A variety of curriculum was used, such as Code Monkey to introduce coding, Scholastic Literature Camps and Lexia for Language Arts, Renaissance and Freckle for Math, and many developed their own summer-themed thematic units to keep our students actively engaged. Lindhurst high school and Marysville High school students were given the opportunity to attend Summer school for credit recovery. Marysville High School had 116 courses completed and several students close to completion of their 2nd course. The summer school session will be expanded for those students close to completing their course and have their teacher's recommendation. 47 MHS students got caught up with graduation requirements and are on the path to graduation. All together we had over 1,100 students attend.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING MATTERS



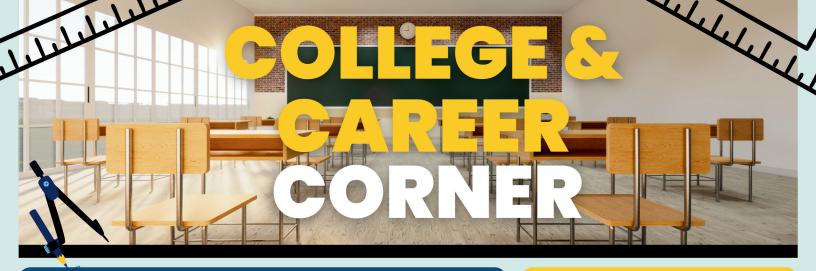


Each year, MJUSD provides multiple, year long opportunities for teachers to refine their teaching practices and build upon their knowledge of standards as well as expand skills in teaching strategies. MJUSD and MUTA work closely together to determine what professional learning is needed each year to support both teachers and student outcomes. This year, MJUSD is providing intensive professional development in Literacy. Our teachers worked with the Director of Data and Student Improvement to develop our TK-3 Literacy Plan during the 22-23 school year which outlined a comprehensive professional learning plan in Structured Literacy.

This work will continue this year to include all grades 3 through 12. MJUSD believes that literacy is not just for elementary teachers and English teachers, literacy appears in all classrooms and all subjects. Therefore, MJUSD is also providing professional learning in how to embed teaching strategies to support reading and writing in all content areas. Dr. McKnight will be providing a series of trainings "Reading for Big Kids". This series is designed to give teachers, who typically have not taught reading, tools and strategies to support reading, comprehension, and writing in the content areas.

So far this summer, teachers attended AP workshops, AVID workshops, Summer of CS (STEM), Literacy Symposiums, BeGlad (EL training), New Teacher training, Enhanced Core Reading Instruction training, Early Childhood Development, and more. This is just the beginning and teachers will have many more opportunities for professional learning throughout the year.





CALKIDS BY: BECCA ROLUFS

Figuring out how to pay for college can be tough, especially for families with limited resources. Fortunately, the State of California has launched a program that could make college a reality for millions of children in our state. We are excited to reintroduce the California Kids Investment and Development Savings Program (CalKIDS)! CalKIDS provides a free college savings account to eligible public school students.

Kids in grades 1-12 may receive up to \$1,500 in college savings!

The State of California offers eligible low-income public school students the following awards in a CalKIDS college savings account, as applicable:*

- \$500 automatic deposit for eligible low-income public school students enrolled in 1st 12th grade
- \$500 additional deposit for eligible students identified as foster youth
- \$500 additional deposit for eligible students experiencing homelessness

To confirm your child's eligibility and secure a college savings account, please register at https://calkids.org/. Your student will need their SSID number, or a unique code included in a notification letter that has been mailed to you soon. If you need help accessing your student's SSID number, please contact the MJUSD College and Career Department at (530) 749-6917. This program is currently only offered as a one-time payment. Students who registered during the 2022-23 school year do not need to re-register.

For more information about the program, eligible CalKIDS participants and their parents can visit the CalKIDS website at https://calkids.org/, contact a representative at 888-445-2377, or attend the following free webinars by registering at https://calkids.org/:

- August 17, 2023, 12:00pm-1:00pm
- September 21, 2023, 5:30pm-6:30pm

*Final deposits are subject to change and approval by the ScholarShare Investment Board.

FAFSA RE-LAUNCH BY: PAOLO SOTELO

Over the years, there have been many barriers to college access and success. One major barrier is affordability, as college prices and student debt levels have risen to alarming heights. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is the federal form that students must complete to be considered for any financial aid from the federal government, state, or one of the colleges they hope to attend. Unfortunately, the form requires detailed financial information, and for many students who don't understand how financial aid works, filling out the FAFSA can add to the pressure and stress of the college application process. The National Center for Educational Statistics (NCES) found that 23% of high school graduates did not have enough information about how to complete the FAFSA, 15% did not known they could complete a FAFSA, and 9% thought that the FAFSA forms were too much work or too time-consuming.

However, the FAFSA Simplification Act will make the process easier and more accessible for students. The Act helps students receive financial aid by shortening the application and expanding eligibility for federal aid. The new version has reduced the number of questions from 108 to approximately 46. Moreover, students won't need to answer all questions manually because the application will have an improved integrated tool to retrieve IRS data. The application for the 24-25 academic year will launch in December 2023. All seniors should submit an application regardless of family income and post secondary plans. There are billions of dollars left on the table because students were unable to complete the application. Counselors will begin to push out information as the academic year begins. College can be an affordable option and the FAFSA is here to help!

ADMINISTRATORS ATTEND TRAINING OVER SUMMER BREAK



School site administrators and District leadership participated in a two-day training to prepare for students to return to campus.

AUGUST SCHOOL SITE NEWSLETTERS



Covillaud School



Kynoch School



South Lindhurst High School



<u>Yuba Feather</u> <u>Elementary School</u>



Marysville Charter
Academy for the Arts





PARENTS, PLEASE JOIN US ONLINE FOR SUPERINTENDENT SESSIONS

- Ask questions
- Share Ideas
- Express concerns

Morning Zoom Link:

https://mjusd.zoom.us/j/88379281010? pwd=dlgOMnBSeGNHYTM1dkc1SOtiOEwxUT 09

Evening Zoom Link:

https://mjusd.zoom.us/j/82358056621? pwd=R0pUcGErOXMrTElPOHIxQXhvOU1IUT



Abraham Lincoln Principal David Jones 530-749-6105 djones@mjusd.com



Arboga Elementary Principal Joe Seiler 530-741-6101 jseiler@mjusd.com



Browns Valley Elementary Principal Melissa White 530-741-6115 ext. 3804 mwhite@mjusd.com



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



Cordua Elementary Principal Melissa White 530-741-6115 ext. 1804 mwhite@mjusd.com



Covillaud Elementary Principal Karen Dow 530-741-6121 ext. 4004 kdow@mjusd.com



Dobbins Elementary 530-692-1665 ext. 1204 mhiggins@mjusd.com



Edgewater Elementary Principal Michelle Higgins Principal Renee Henderson 530-741-0866 rhenderson@mjusd.com



Ella Elementary Principal Jennifer McAdam 530-741-6124 imcadam@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 Patrick O'Brien 530-741-6196 pobrien@mjusd.com



Lindhurst High School Principal Merrill Grant 530-741-6150 ext. 2504 mgrant@mjusd.com



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



Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts Principal Eric Preston 530-749-6156 epreston@mjusd.com



Marysville High School Principal David Vujovich 530-741-6108 ext. 3102 dvujovich@mjusd.com



Marysville School for Adults Director James Lohman 530-740-6424 jlohman@mjusd.com



McKenney Intermediate Principal Troy Hane 530-741-6187 thane@mjusd.com



Middle College Academy Principal James Lohman 530-741-6187 ilohman@mjusd.com



No. Lindhurst High School Principal David Jones 530-749-6919 djones@mjusd.com



Olivehurst Elementary Principal Heather Marshall 530-741-6191 ext. 5804 hmarshall@mjusd.com



So. Lindhurst High School Principal David Jones 530-749-6919 djones@mjusd.com



Yuba Feather Principal Michelle Higgins 530-675-2382 mhiggins@mjusd.com



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