

Special Education Department Newsletter

Spring 2023

Within Alvord Unified, our students are the heart of the district. With the support of our community, families, and staff, our students are able to progress towards their life goals. The Special Education Department would like to send a special thank you to our students for their grit, hard work, and determination.

Spotlight



Alvord USD Student: Crystal Langfitt

She is the *"Bright Light that Everyone Needs,"* is how Ms. Langfitt, Crystal's mother, summarizes her daughter. Born at 4 months, Crystal came into this world as a fighter. She has yet to back down from a challenge and continues to advocate for herself and her goals.

Her passion for life started at a young age and her determination is easily seen today. As Crystal wraps up her last year at La Sierra High School, she can proudly share that she made Honor Roll every year in high school and received the *President's Award* in 8th grade. Crystal is part of the National Honors Society at LSHS and has participated in the Health Academy Program since she was a freshman.



Additional Accomplishments...

- 4-year Cheerleader
- Holds the seat as Treasurer on the ASB board
- Made the LSHS Softball team

Crystal has expressed that she would like to be a Nurse Practitioner when she is older and is currently taking the steps to pursue this dream. Crystal has a strong support system not only at school, but at home as well. She is admired by her peers and continues to greatly grow in the area of self-advocacy.



"Bright Light that Everyone Needs"



Autism Acceptance Month (April 1st - 30th)



Autism Acceptance Month was previously named Autism Awareness Month and it aims to celebrate and promote acceptance for the complex developmental condition. In April, we emphasize the need to promote acceptance and celebrate differences.

Below are Parent Resources & Upcoming Summer Opportunities:

***Autism Distance Education Parent Training**

The UC Davis MIND Institute/CEDD created these interactive, self-paced, online learning modules to provide parents with tools and training to more effectively teach their child with autism and other related neurodevelopmental disorders functional skills using applied behavior analysis (ABA) techniques.

https://health.ucdavis.edu/mindinstitute/centers/cedd/cedd_adept.html

AFIRM

*** Autism Focused Intervention Resources & Modules**

The University of North Carolina has created Autism Focused Intervention modules designed to help parents & educators learn the step-by-step process of planning and implementing evidence based practices with learners with Autism from birth to 22 years of age.

<https://afirm.fpg.unc.edu/node/2972>

***Youth Leadership Summit @ Cal Poly Pomona**



For Students with Disabilities

Join the SCRS-IL Youth Leadership Summit for a Five-Day leadership program for Students with Disabilities, held at Cal Poly Pomona University.



DEVELOP ADVOCACY AND LEADERSHIP SKILLS FROM SCRS ALUMNI AND PROFESSIONALS WITH DISABILITIES AND CREATE A "PERSONAL FUTURES PLAN" TO HELP REACH YOUR FUTURE EDUCATION, INDEPENDENT LIVING, AND CAREER GOALS.

Application Information Available at:

WWW.SCRS-ILC.ORG/YLS

For additional information and how to complete the application, please email or call us at:

yls@scrs-ilc.org / 626 587-5010



Please note that the resources, organizations, & agencies noted above are not affiliated with AUSD & accessing or signing up with these organizations/agencies are separate from AUSD



UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Every Student. By Name.