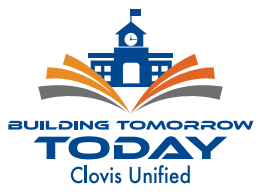


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CUSD Today

September 2022

Clovis Unified School District — DEVELOPING STUDENTS IN MIND, BODY & SPIRIT

Volume 25, No. 2

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2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR

Welcome Back!



Off to a great start

Warm welcomes, cheers and high-fives greeted the approximately 42,700 students on the first day of the 2022-23 school year across Clovis Unified campuses. Rallies, back-to-school nights and special events were part of many sites' start to school. *Pictured, clockwise from top left:* Incoming student Alex Martirosyan gives flowers to Copper Hills Elementary first grade teacher Rebecca Jackson. Alta Sierra Intermediate student Garrett Aviles gives new students a tour of the campus. Clovis Unified Director of Purchasing Leeann Errotabere rings the original Jefferson Elementary School bell marking the official opening of the new year. Clark Intermediate student Clair Williamson hands out glazed donuts before school on the first day. Teacher Mike Knittle waves to students and the driver aboard a CUSD bus arriving to campus.



Photos by Kenny Gilman, P.J. Lippert, Rob Lambert/CUSD Today

Are you eligible for free child care?

■ Qualifying Ed Benefit Survey available

Families are urged to fill out the Educational Benefit Survey that determines income eligibility for students and families for additional supports. This may include no-cost before- and after-school enrichment care for elementary students through Clovis Unified's new Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP) or After School Education & Safety (ASES) program, which are similar to Campus Club.

Other benefits for those who qualify are discounted home internet, test fees waived for college-admission tests and discounted application fees.

Additionally, even if you think you don't qualify, taking the survey can help your child's school as survey data is used to make available federal and state funding for schools with students in need to enhance services.

This survey was previously required of students to qualify for no-cost meals, but with school breakfast and lunch meals now free for all students, some families may have chosen not to take the survey during CUSD's Annual Information Update where it was offered.

To find out if your family qualifies and to help your school, please fill out the Educational Benefit Survey at cUSD.com/EducationalBenefitSurvey.



Fentanyl dealers targeting youth with 'candy'

■ Parents, students encouraged to view or attend Town Hall, Sept. 15

To raise awareness among parents and students of a dangerous fentanyl epidemic that has made its way into Fresno County and has taken the lives of dozens of young people while trapping others in a cycle of addiction, local officials are joining forces at a live Town Hall at Clovis North High Sept. 15.

Fentanyl is being disguised as candy in an alarming new trend that targets youth and hides the drug in plain sight of parents and adults. Throughout the nation, law enforcement officers are encountering versions of candy containing illicit fentanyl and resembling Gummy Bears or Skittles, Pez tablets, or rainbow-colored powder.

The synthetic opioid can be up to 50 times more potent than heroin, and just a few grains of it can prove to be fatal. Fentanyl overdose is a leading cause of drug-related deaths in Fresno County.



"This dangerous drug is in our community and has robbed families of their children," said Clovis Unified Superintendent Eimear O'Brien, Ed.D. "I want to personally encourage everyone to attend or view this Town Hall and have a conversation in your home about the dangers of fentanyl."

The growing fentanyl crisis will be discussed at the Town Hall at 6 p.m. Sept. 15 at Clovis North's Lecture Hall, and an information fair will also be held. The event will be broadcast live on station CW59 and available for viewing online afterward. Among those scheduled to speak are Fresno County District Attorney Lisa Smittcamp; Fresno County Sheriff-Elect John Zanon; Fresno County Superintendent of Schools Jim Yovino; and Fresno County Public Health's Dr. John Zweifler.

Learn more:

➤ See Fresno County District Attorney Lisa Smittcamp's column, Page 5.



TOP CHARACTER!

Congratulations to 10 Clovis Unified elementary schools that were recently recognized by the Fresno State Bonner Center for Character Education and Citizenship with the Virtues and Character Recognition Award.

They are: Boris, Cedarwood, Clovis, Cole, Fancher Creek, Freedom, Pinedale, Reagan, Weldon and Young elementary schools.



Athletic Hall of Fame inductees named

■ Sports-greats to share their stories at event

Learn about some of the greats who made their marks in Clovis Unified athletics and then went on to become Olympians, professional athletes and national champions.

Clovis Unified will induct its Sixth Class into the Athletic Hall of Fame in a showcase event planned for October. Inductees represent different decades in Clovis Unified sports and were determined by a committee that received numerous nominations.

This year's Hall of Fame Class includes:

➤ **CUSD Athletic Hall of Fame**

- 6 p.m. reception/ 7 p.m. ceremony
- Oct. 29
- Shaghoian Concert Hall on Clovis North campus
- Legendary athletes. Videos. On-stage interviews.
- Admission is free.

- Paige Bowie – Basketball & Softball, Clovis West High
- Tom Deel – Football, Softball & Golf, Clovis West High and current coach at Buchanan High
- Matt Giordano – Football, Buchanan High
- George Petersen – Football, Wrestling & Track, Clovis West High
- Keith Poole – Football, Clovis High
- Jaime Ramirez – Soccer, Clovis High

- Torrey Schroeder – Softball & Volleyball, Buchanan High
- 1974 Clovis High Football Team
- 1997-2019 Clovis West Girls Swim Teams
- Roger Orazo will be receiving the Doc Buchanan Award, presented to a longtime supporter and friend to Clovis Unified athletics.



Special to CUSD Today/Kenny Gilman

Bears, Broncos in Cal-Hi Top 10

Congratulations to Buchanan High (No. 2) and Clovis North High (No. 9) schools that both earned spots in the recently released Cal-Hi Sports' 2021-22 Top 10 Schools of the Year list.

The prestigious rankings are based on the previous school year's athletic championships and high school national and state rankings.

The Clovis Unified schools are the only schools in the Central Valley represented in the list, and they are two of just four public schools (in addition to Newport Harbor and Campolindo) to make the Top 10.

"Buchanan is a flagship athletic program," said Athletic Director

James Gambrell. "No longer are league and section titles the only goal, but we are also striving for state and national championships." The Bears have made the Cal-Hi Top 10 list several times in the last decade, and they earned the top spot on the list in 2019 and 2020. "Our success is reflective of a supportive governing board, great administration, amazing student athletes, fantastic directors of sports and first-class facilities."

Buchanan High won Valley and/or State championships during the 2021-22 school year in girls cross country (DI Valley and DI State), girls soccer (DI Valley), boys tennis

(DII Valley), boys track (Valley), girls track (Valley), and wrestling (Valley and State).

Clovis North High won Valley and/or State championships during the 2021-22 school year in boys golf (Valley), boys swimming (Valley), girls swimming (Valley), and boys water polo (DI Valley).

"This accomplishment provides validation of the hard work our coaches and student-athletes exhibit year in and year out," said Clovis North Athletic Director Rob Streeter. "We are extremely blessed to have coaches throughout all programs who believe in our student-athletes and are dedicated to their success."

Clovis Unified School District
6th Annual Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

Come celebrate Clovis Unified's athletic legends!

Admission is Free!

Honoring:
Doc Buchanan Award – Roger Orazo

Paige Bowie - Basketball & Softball | Tom Deel - Football, Softball & Golf
Matt Giordano - Football | George Petersen - Football, Wrestling & Track
Keith Poole - Football | Jaime Ramirez - Soccer | Torrey Schroeder - Softball & Volleyball
1974 Clovis High Football Team
1997-2019 Clovis West Girls Swim Teams

Saturday, October 29, 2022

Clovis North Educational Center, Paul Shaghoian Concert Hall
2770 E. International Avenue, Fresno
Reception 6:00 p.m. | Program 7:00 p.m.

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NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS!

NO-COST MEALS BUT FAMILIES MAY STILL APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY BENEFITS

Clovis Unified Campus Catering offers healthy meals to all students at No-Cost for the 2022-2023 school year. California is the first state to implement a statewide Universal Meals Program for school children. California Universal Meals Program is designed to build on the foundations of the federal National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program. In addition, Clovis Unified is operating the Community Eligibility Provision Program (CEP) for the 2022-2023 school year at the following schools: Boris, Clark, CCDS Elementary, CCDS Secondary, Clovis East, Clovis Elementary, Cole, Fancher Creek, Gateway, Gettysburg, Jefferson, Kastner, Lincoln, Mickey Cox, Miramonte, Mountain View, Nelson, Pinedale, Reyburn, Sierra Vista, Tarpey, Temperance-Kutner, Weldon.

Free and reduced cost meal applications may still be beneficial for families to complete at non-CEP schools, as those who qualify for the free or reduced meal program have additional benefit opportunities such as discount internet and advanced placement (AP) testing. The household size and income criteria identified below will be used to determine eligibility for free or reduced-price benefits. Household information provided on the application will be used to determine eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by program officials. To apply for free or reduced-price meal benefits, applications and more information can be found online at: cUSD.com/nocost-meals.aspx. Applications may be submitted at any time during the 2022-2023 school year. For information, please contact the Campus Catering Office at 559-327-9140.

Clovis Unified Campus Catering Department is working with the State and Fresno County to identify all children who are categorically and program eligible such as CALFresh, CALWorks, or FDIPIR. If a student receives benefits, an application is not needed.

2022-2023 INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	FREE ELIGIBILITY SCALE					REDUCED-PRICE ELIGIBILITY SCALE				
	YEAR	MONTH	TWICE PER MONTH	EVERY TWO WEEKS	WEEK	YEAR	MONTH	TWICE PER MONTH	EVERY TWO WEEKS	WEEK
1	\$ 17,667	\$ 1,473	\$ 737	\$ 680	\$ 340	\$ 25,142	\$ 2,096	\$ 1,048	\$ 967	\$ 484
2	23,803	1,984	992	916	458	33,874	2,823	1,412	1,303	652
3	29,939	2,495	1,248	1,152	576	42,606	3,551	1,776	1,639	820
4	36,075	3,007	1,504	1,388	694	51,338	4,279	2,140	1,975	988
5	42,211	3,518	1,759	1,624	812	60,070	5,006	2,503	2,311	1,156
6	48,347	4,029	1,759	1,624	930	68,802	5,734	2,867	2,647	1,324
7	54,483	4,541	2,271	2,096	1,048	77,534	6,462	3,231	2,983	1,492
8	60,619	5,052	2,526	2,332	1,166	86,266	7,189	3,595	3,318	1,659
For each additional family member, add:										
	\$ 6,136	\$ 512	\$ 256	\$ 236	\$ 118	\$ 8,732	\$ 728	\$ 364	\$ 336	\$ 168

This institution is an equal opportunity provider

➤ Announcements



Parent Information Night scheduled for Sept. 13

How can you help your student at home? Need more information about Parent Connect? Does your student need tutoring help? Clovis Unified's Transition Team, along with the Curriculum, Instruction and Accountability Team, will be hosting a Parent Information Night. Information and ideas about ways to help your child succeed will be shared during the evening presentation on Sept. 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the Clovis Unified Professional Learning Center, 362 Clovis Ave., Clovis. Complimentary dinner will be available at 6 p.m. Free childcare is also available.

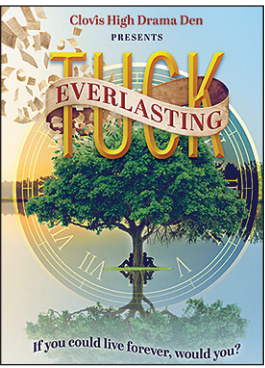
Learn more: CUSD Learning Director Lisa Vuola, 327-0666.

Sign up: Use this QR code to register.



CHS musical opens Sept. 30

Clovis High students will perform the award-winning musical "Tuck Everlasting" in the Mercedes Edwards Theatre later this month. "Tuck Everlasting" is based upon the children's novel of the same name and is about a young girl's encounter with a



family who drink water from a magical spring that makes them immortal. Will she join them in drinking from the spring? Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 30, Oct. 1, 6, 7 and 8, with a 2 p.m. matinee Oct. 1 at the MET, 902 Fifth St., Clovis. Doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets: cUSD.com/EventsTickets.aspx.

CEHS performs comedy starting Oct. 6

Laughter and mischief await those attending Clovis East High's fall production of "The Play That Goes Wrong." The smash-hit farce is a play within a play as it opens with opening night of Cornley University Drama Society's production "The Murder at Haversham Manor," and things quickly turn disastrous. It's a comedic whodunit as the thespians carry on to the final curtain. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. Oct 6-8 and 13-15 at the Dan Pessano Theater in the Clovis Unified Performing Arts Center, 2770 E. International Ave., Fresno. Box office opens at 6:30 pm.; seating opens at 7 p.m. Tickets: <https://vancoevents.com/BJFY>



Win a home, support CUSD!

It's not too late to support Clovis Unified students while also having the chance to win a brand, new home in a drawing held Sept. 28. The Foundation for Clovis Schools, which awards grants and scholarships to Clovis Unified students, is one of 12 community nonprofits that will benefit from Granville Homes "Home of Hope" fundraiser.

Ticket sales for the drawing of the \$500,000-plus Deauville East home located in the Buchanan Area are limited and are no longer available at participating nonprofit sites. There is, however, one more chance to get a ticket by calling in during the Granville Home of Hope Live Telethon on KSEE 24 on Sept. 14. Participants are encouraged to mention the Foundation for Clovis Schools in order for proceeds from the purchase to benefit Clovis Unified students.

Find out more: FoundationForClovisSchools.com or 327-9095.

Call the telethon on Sept. 14: 559.440-8388

Immunizations, physicals available at SV Center

Clovis Unified's Sierra Vista Children's Health Center is open Mondays through Thursdays for immunizations, well-child exams and sports physicals. The services are available to children up to 18 years of age and are free of charge to income-eligible families. Patients who have Medi-Cal are also eligible for these services as well as those who do not have health insurance coverage. Sports Physicals are \$30, cash only. The center is located on the Sierra Vista Elementary School campus at 510

Barstow Ave., Clovis. Appointments are required and may be scheduled by calling 327-7976.

Get the app!

Parents can keep informed on their mobile device about their child's school by downloading the Clovis Unified app. Available in the Apple and Android stores, the app lets parents select schools to follow and receive notifications about school news, lunch menus and more.



➤ BOARD BRIEFS

By Kelly Avants
Chief Communications Officer

Aug. 17

Congratulations to the following new administrators, whose appointments to current openings were announced by the Governing Board at the Aug. 17 meeting:

- Amanda Torres, to the position of Principal of Red Bank Elementary.
- Karen Boone, to the position of Assistant Director, Curriculum, Instruction and Accountability.
- Sheryl Elliot, to the position of Assistant Director, Nursing Services.
- Geoff Dean to the position of Coordinator, Visual and Performing Arts

In other action, the governing board:

- Recognized members of the district's Communications Department for state and national awards received from the California School Public Relations Association and the National School Public Relations Association for excellence in strategic communication initiatives.
- Held a public hearing for sunshine and consideration of the initial proposal of the District to the Association of Clovis Educators (ACE) Psychologists and Mental Health Support Providers regarding an initial collective bargaining agreement, and later adopted the initial proposal of the District to ACE Psychologists and Mental Health Support Providers that was the subject of the public hearing.
- Approved the district's membership in the California School Boards Association (CSBA) for the current year.
- Voted against maintaining membership

in the CSBA Legal Alliance for the current year.

- Approved conference, student trip and fundraiser requests, change orders, the annual schedule for elementary school trips to Sierra Outdoor School, minutes for the July 13 meeting, and the voluntary community recreation programs as submitted.
- Approved the annual voting membership for the Community Advisory Committee.
- Awarded supply bids for Campus Catering produce for the current school year.
- Approved new courses of study proposals for use at CART in the 2022-23 school year, about which more information is available in the Curriculum, Instruction and Accountability office.
- Approved a provisional internship permit to allow a teacher additional time to obtain specialized credentialing.
- Authorized an exemption to the Separation of Service Requirements for the 2022-23 school year for one former employee.
- Adopted Resolution No. 3883 establishing the annual tax rate for bonds.
- Adopted Resolution No. 3882 authorizing inter-fund loans for cash flow purposes.
- Approved the submission of an application to the California Energy Commission to participate in the California Schools Healthy Air, Plumbing and Efficiency Grant Program.

The next regularly scheduled meetings of the Governing Board are Sept. 7 and 21 with the public portion of the meetings beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the CUSD Governing Boardroom, 1680 David E. Cook Way, Clovis. Complete minutes, agendas and videos of meetings are available online at www.cUSD.com.

Clovis Unified School District 2022 Superintendent's Breakfast

Featuring Eimear O'Brien, Ed.D.

Visit FoundationForClovisSchools.com/Breakfast

Featuring Eimear O'Brien, Ed.D.
CUSD Superintendent

Annually, Superintendent Eimear O'Brien, Ed.D. is invited by the Foundation for Clovis Schools to deliver a State of the District address to our community. This sold-out breakfast event is an opportunity for area leaders to stay informed about their local schools. Join thought leaders of our community to hear about academic achievement, financial accountability, and the future of our schools at the 2022 Superintendent's Breakfast.

Thursday, October 6, 2022

Doors open: 7:00 a.m.

Program: 7:30-9:00 a.m.

Clovis Veterans Memorial District
808 4th St., Clovis, CA 93612

Tickets: \$50/person or \$400/table

Purchase tickets by September 29 at
FoundationForClovisSchools.com
or call (559) 327-9090

Purchase tickets early as the event is expected to sell out.



All proceeds will be used by the Foundation for Clovis Schools to support scholarships and classroom grants that directly benefit CUSD students!



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STATE CENTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

Evidence it'll be a great school year!

By Eimear O'Brien, Ed.D.
Superintendent

THE school year is underway, and our campuses are abuzz with excitement and energy that tells me it is going to be a great school year! That's a bold claim to make, especially when we have only been in school for a few weeks. Even so, I know it's true.



Eimear O'Brien, Ed.D.

I could tell in the smiling faces and enthusiasm demonstrated by members of the Clovis East High leadership class I saw on campus at 6:30 a.m. the first day of school. They all wore brightly colored shirts that loudly proclaimed "Hello!" and identified them as a friendly face ready to help make their peers feel comfortable. In under a half an hour I watched them transform the campus with signage, balloons and pom poms signaling their excitement for a new year. Shortly after they finished, more than 4,400 students arrived on the Reagan Educational Center campus and were met with visible reminders that every one of them is welcome and cared about.

I heard it in the laughter and chattering young voices underlying the peal of Jefferson Elementary's original school bell, rung promptly at 8:15 a.m. on the first day of school to celebrate the start of another year. Before hundreds of students and parents, the bell rung out with sweet, clear notes that reminded all of us that the school year is an important part of the rhythm of our entire community. Jefferson Elementary is 138 years old, and for that long, the same bell has called students to learn and grow. Building Tomorrow Today is our theme this year, and Jefferson's

bell ringing ceremony had a particular poignancy given its resonant reminder that the kids who attend our schools are the future citizens of our community.

More evidence was found at every school campus onto which I stepped during the first week of school.

At one school, the principal proudly described to me how her amazing teachers had stepped up to solve a staffing puzzle. Several teachers willingly offered to change their grade level assignments in a stairstep shuffle to address the school's needs for both a new kindergarten teacher and a reduction of its fifth-grade

team by one. The team came together to help decorate the new classroom, so our kindergarten students had a beautiful and welcoming classroom on the first day of school. This experience reminds me that our schools are served by thoughtful and creative educators who are willing to go above and beyond, and who look for every chance to do what's right for our students and to help one another.

I even saw it on the kindergarten "red carpet" at Bud Rank Elementary in the teary face of a student who wasn't quite ready to say good-bye to his mom. After three or four tries at farewell, each culminating in hugs,

reassurances and tears, this young man was drawn into the classroom with compassion, humor and tenderness by the kindergarten team. Their friendly faces and soothing confidence helped transition worry and fear to eagerness and wonder in the classroom.

I attended a gathering of our Transportation team and heard that once again, our bus drivers who transport over 700 students with disabilities went out to every home and personally introduced themselves to the family to make sure they knew their child would be cared for during their journey to and from school.

On another occasion, I joined

our Plant Operations team and heard about the lengths our custodial, maintenance and grounds staff went to in order to get our schools ready for the new school year. I am in awe of the 60 construction projects that occurred over the summer to continue to keep our schools and grounds updated and safe to meet the needs of our students returning to school.

In Clovis Unified, we have a tradition that founding superintendent "Doc" Buchanan started 62 years ago, where the superintendent personally interviews every single teacher, and this summer, I completed almost 200 interviews that included nurses, school psychologists, counselors and more. I can personally attest to you, our community, that in Clovis Unified, we continue to hold our standards very high, and to bring on the best role models to place in our classrooms and schools. Doc used to say, "If you want to develop winners, you've got to surround our children with winners" and our students need more than ever to be supported by us all in navigating the complexities of their lives.

As I look around at our educational team and reflect on the weight of the responsibility that I have as your superintendent, I am once again reminded that we have the most wonderful educational team working hard to provide your children with an exemplary education. Every employee in our district is positioned to make a positive impact on our students, and that's why I always remind them that every employee is an educator!

And you, our families, our Governing Board, and our community are our partners. What an awesome opportunity for us to join together and take close to 43,000 students to great heights as we build their tomorrows today. Teamwork and Trust is one of our core values in Clovis Unified, and I am excited to lead us all TOGETHER through another great school year!

LESSONS

Inspirations by, for and from our CUSD students



Special to CUSD Today/Kenny Gilman

Students at Clovis High are greeted on the first day of school with cheering and celebration.

"A smile is the universal welcome."

MAX EASTMAN, AMERICAN WRITER

What parents need to know about fentanyl

By Lisa Smittcamp
Fresno County District Attorney



Lisa Smittcamp

Fentanyl is the most addictive, lethal drug ever to be sold in our communities. The fentanyl epidemic is not only throughout our state and country, but also here in Fresno County.

Historically, fentanyl was a drug used only by medical professionals to provide pain relief to patients. When properly administered, it produces effects such as relaxation, drowsiness, and respiratory depression. When used in uncontrolled amounts via counterfeit pills or powder,

it will slow respiration, reduce blood pressure, cause fainting and seizures, and can stop the heart and respiratory system entirely.

Non-prescription fentanyl, which is being put into counterfeit pills and powder form, is being sold to the public and killing thousands of Americans each year. In 2020, the CDC reported that 24,576 people died in the U.S. from fentanyl-related overdoses. In 2021, that number jumped to 71,238. In 2022, we expect death tolls from overdoses to precipitously increase. Law enforcement is seizing MILLIONS of counterfeit pills coming over the border containing enough fentanyl to kill hundreds of thousands of people.

Fresno County has led the way on educating our community on the realities of this dangerous and potentially fatal poison through PSA's, billboards and social media posts. In addition, through our collaboration with the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools and our local media partners, we've been addressing this crucial topic on many platforms, from ABC30 producing the documentary, KILLER HIGH: The Silent Crisis, to FOX26 hosting live Town Halls, and Univision reaching the Spanish-speaking community.

► FENTANYL TOWN HALL

- 6 p.m., Sept. 15
- Clovis North Lecture Hall
- Broadcast Live: CW59
- Watch: cUSD.com
- Speakers include: Fresno County District Attorney Lisa Smittcamp, Fresno County Sheriff-Elect John Zanoni and Fresno County Public Health Dr. John Zweifler

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Fresno Office with the Fentanyl Overdose Resolution Team (FORT) leads the way to bring education/awareness. It is the only task force in the area that investigates, arrests, and prosecutes the people who are selling this poison. FORT consists of members of the Fresno Police Department, DEA, Homeland Security Investigations, Fresno County District Attorney's Office, United States Attorney's Office, and the Fresno County Sheriff's Office.

Here are six things every parent should know about the dangers of fentanyl and how to prevent fentanyl use:

1. Monitor Social Media Platforms

Most of the fentanyl pills and powder are being sold on social media platforms. Common apps such as Snapchat, What's App, Twitch, Instagram, Telegram, etc. should be actively monitored for any signs of dealers reaching out to your child. Different lingo is used to solicit buyers with phrases such as "M30, percs, blues, tango and cash, and xannie bars."

2. Be Aware of Their Social Circles

Know who your children are associating with outside of

the home. Look for changes in friend groups or certain behaviors. People who are under the influence of fentanyl do not have objective signs of intoxication that are common with other substances.

3. Signs and Symptoms

Look for signs such as drowsiness, sedation, confusion, disorientation, slurred speech, pin-point pupils, change in sleeping patterns, lack of good hygiene, unkept bedrooms, and falling grades. Often, young adults are found deceased from fentanyl poisoning while they are laying in their beds, where their family members believed, they were just listening to music, playing video games or sleeping.

4. Influence of Vaping and Marijuana Use

Based on F.O.R.T. investigations and interviews, vaping and marijuana use cause anxiety based on the higher THC levels found in marijuana today. This increased anxiety leads the user to seek out drugs such as Xanax. Sadly, the "Xanax" they receive is a fake one laced with fentanyl.

5. Naloxone aka "Narcan"

This medication is used to reverse an opioid/fentanyl overdose, and if administered timely, can prevent a death. We encourage all parents to keep Narcan on hand, not only for their own children, but also for others who may be users and visiting your residence.

6. Cash Apps

Users purchase drugs using cash apps such as Venmo and Zelle. The average price for a counterfeit pill is \$20. Parents should monitor all cash apps and should be aware that dealers will often deliver the pill(s), which are easily concealed, directly to the user's home and simply drop it off in a location where it is undetected and easily accessible to the user.

We implore you to take this information seriously, share it with other parents, and warn our youth about the deadly effects of fentanyl.

— ABOUT US —

CUSD Today, Clovis Unified's good news publication, is sent directly to the homes of all CUSD parents and staff, as well as district supporters. In an effort to unify the CUSD community, the newspaper highlights the achievements of Clovis Unified students and staff; profiles new and updated Governing Board policies; and shares general news and information happening within the district.

Circulation: 34,000.
Funding: All costs associated with producing, printing and mailing CUSD Today are entirely funded by our advertisers. To show your appreciation of their support, we ask you to consider patronizing these businesses and services as the need arises.

Story submissions: Please submit all ideas to the Site Coordinator at your school. Please contact your school to find out who your Site Coordinator is. Editorial deadlines are two weeks before the publication date. We do our best to include as many submissions in each issue as our editorial space will allow.

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Students enjoy Summer CTE Academy learning

■ New staff join several schools for 2022-23 year

By Karen M. Boone
Assistant Director of Curriculum,
Instruction and Accountability

CTE Summer Academy

Clovis Unified's Career Technical Education (CTE) programs don't stop for summer break. This year, the Summer CTE Academy offered five free three-week programs throughout the district. During June and July, more than 150 sixth- through ninth- grade students made their first steps on their CTE journey, and many are looking forward to joining these pathways when they enter high school. Summer experiences included:

■ "Carpentry at Clovis High:" Students learned safe and efficient use of the wood-working procedures used by professional furniture and cabinet makers, as well as life skills for maintaining equipment at home

■ "Building Information Modeling (BIM) at Clovis High:" Students became familiar with architectural drafting, design, and modeling utilizing industry software and technologies such as BIM to visualize projects.

■ "A look into Health Careers at Clovis North:" Students learned about human musculoskeletal anatomy, athletic taping techniques, first aid, vitals, and became CPR/AED certified.

■ "Get your Motors Running through Automotive, Graphic Design and Children's

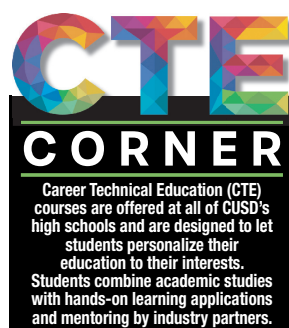


Art at Clovis West:" Students learned about children's art and basic automotive skills.

■ "The Art of Storytelling at Clovis North:" Students learned the basics of story writing and storytelling. Through the perspective of Ancient Mythology, students created and published their own mythological story.

Secondary level news

Twenty-six of the district's CTE Education Pathway high school students were employed over the summer in Clovis Unified summer school, Campus Club and ELOP programs to gain insights in real work experiences. Most worked from June 16 through the end of July, supporting district programs, learning more about workplace options in the Education field, and also earning more than



minimum wage.

When students returned to campus for the 2022-23 school year last month, they were welcomed by some new CTE teachers.

■ Michelle Reed is making the move from Kastner Intermediate to Buchanan High to lead the Engineering Pathway. Denise Jameson comes from outside the district to serve as the teacher in the Environmental Sustainability Pathway.

■ At Clovis East High, Martha Marin joined the Plant and Soil Science Pathway.

■ Clovis North High chemistry teacher Geoffrey Quiring will be moving over to the CTE department at Clovis North as the teacher for the Software and Systems Development.

■ Darren Grubel, former district digital communications coordinator, made the switch to the classroom at Clovis West High where he is teaching their Business Management courses.

One out of 4 high school students in CTE

Currently, 3,884 of Clovis Unified's 13,522 high school students, or just over 28%, are taking one or more CTE courses.

Clovis Unified offers programs and services for children with special needs

Special Education

The Clovis Unified School District offers a variety of special education services and programs to serve children with communicative, physical, learning, emotional and other special needs. These services and programs are available to all qualified children in public schools and, to a limited degree, children in private schools.

Special education services are provided only to children who have been found eligible through a process of testing and other assessments and when it is determined that their needs cannot be met using the resources of the general education program. Parents, teachers, or other concerned individuals can refer a child for assessment and determination of eligibility.

To learn more about special education services and the special education referral process, contact Clovis Unified School District Special Education Department at 327-9400.

Advisory committee meetings

Clovis Unified holds regular meetings throughout the year of its Special Education Community Advisory Committee (CAC) that are open to the public. The committee serves in an advisory capacity to the Special Education Local Plan Area. Its goal is to raise community awareness about the needs of students and their families regarding Special Education programs and to provide information, workshops and resources to families to help ensure that quality programs educate the student with exceptional needs in mind, body and spirit.

CAC meetings are held from noon to 1 p.m. at the CUSD Professional Development Building, 1680 David E. Cook Way, Clovis, and a complimentary lunch is provided. Upcoming are:

■ Sept. 28 – Topic: "Overview of CUSD Special Education Programs"

■ Oct. 26 – Topic: "District and Community Resources" For more information or to secure an interpreter for a meeting, call 327-8455 or email familyresourcecenter@cUSD.com. Information and can also be found on cUSD.com.

Family Resource Center workshops

Clovis Unified Special Education Family Resource Center offers free online and in-person events that feature presentations, discussion and resource information. Upcoming are:

■ Oct. 6 – "Special Education Parent Night," in-person. Join us from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the CUSD Professional Development Building, 1680 David E. Cook Way, Clovis. Register: <https://tinyurl.com/FRCparentnight2022>.

■ Oct. 11 – "Positive Parenting – Parents of Preschoolers," online. Presented by CUSD Child Development and Family Resource Center 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Oct. 11. Zoom link will be provided after registration. Register: <https://tinyurl.com/CUSD101122>.



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Finalists in Patriot Day contests

Several Clovis Unified students are finalists in Fresno County Superintendent of Schools "One Voice: Spirit of 9/12" contests for art, poetry and logo design, and they could win a trip to New York.



Winners will be announced following a Candlelight Vigil at the California 9/11 Memorial Sept. 10 in Clovis, and two grand prize winners will receive a trip to visit the National 9/11 Memorial in New York City.

The contest encouraged entrants to capture how – after the tragic day of Sept. 11, 2001 when terrorists bombed several locations in the United States – first responders heroically worked and communities came together to support those impacted by the tragedy.

CUSD finalists are:

■ **Art – Junior High:** Alta Sierra Intermediate students Camila Barajas, Serenity Harguess, Ryan Leslie, McKelle O'Brien, Kaedyn Powell.

■ **Art – High School:** Clovis East High student Julian Gimbel and Clovis High student Valerie Pham.

■ **oetry – Junior High:** Alta Sierra students Madi Amber, Camila Barajas, Sarah Ernster, Clara Hoff, Kaylee Kirk, Ethan Molina, Molly Narez, Joshua O'Brien, Tyler Thao, Jennureah Xiong.

■ **Logo:** Alta Sierra students Kaylyn Burger, Sarah Gip, Daphne Shengel, Camry Thompson, Josiah Ulep; and Clovis West High student Annalyse Oh.

The One Voice: Spirit of 9/12 Candlelight Vigil is at 7 p.m. Sept. 10 at the memorial, 3500 Pelco Way, Clovis; winners will be announced at 8 p.m.

Bears win Emmys!

Buchanan High video students won 10 Emmy Awards from the Northern California Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Science for work done in the previous school year. Four of those, which earned the prestigious "Pillars of Excellence" award in the chapter's National Student Production Awards, will be advanced to the national competition in the fall between all 19 chapters of NATAS.

The Emmy-award winning Buchanan projects and student winners are:

Pillars of Excellence

■ **Newscast:** BNN 2021 (Buchanan News Network), Lucille Malcolm, Gabriel Munro, Rylee Gonzales, Kelton Oliver, Ellianna Sandoval, Daniel Hall, Parker Wyatt, Alejandro Piedra Granados, Makayla Wyckoff, Phoenix Sadler, Ray Williams

■ **Music Video:** "Do You Love Me?" Parker Wyatt, Ciabel Querol, Makayla Wyckoff

■ **Commercial:** "Amanda Rogers Photography," Rylee Gonzales, Gabriel Munro

■ **Photographer:** "Boboland," Braden Estes, Levi Hull



Clark students win Top Film award

Clark Intermediate students received Best Film in the junior division category at the Picture the Valley Film Festival for work done in the previous school year. Jackson Wadley, Silas Roberts, Farrah Ibrahim and Carson Feeser won with their film, "Cyber-Bullying." Each student won a medal, a trophy and an action camera. They also were filmed and scheduled to be on KMPH Great Day.

Certificate of Merit

■ **Video Essay:** "Building a Community: The Story of Fresno Ideaworks," Parker Wyatt

■ **Music Video:** "Come a Little Closer," Rylee Gonzales, Daniel Hall, Gabriel Munro

■ **Audio/Sound:** "Alone," Gabriel Munro

■ **Audio/Sound:** "To Be or Not To Be," Taylor Brunzell

■ **Editor:** "Alone," Gabriel Munro

■ **Photographer:** "ICU – A COVID-19 Documentary," Braden Estes, Levi Hull

Buchanan teacher Daniel Pearce is the advisor for these projects.

'Pete' greets Weldon Warriors



Students at Weldon Elementary had a surprise visitor on campus making the first day back to school even more fun. Parent Teacher Club (PTC) President Leslie Collins donned beloved children's book character "Pete the Cat" and greeted kids and staff on campus. Excited students gave Pete high-fives on their way

to class, adding energy and calming nerves of any first-day jitters.

"He even popped in and made a special visit to our preschool," said Weldon librarian Lisa Palomares.



Anna Richard Scholarship awarded

Clovis North High new graduate Sophia Linder received the Anna Richards Scholarship, pictured here with Anna's mother, Eleanor Richards. Sophia was a member of the National Honor Society and plans to become a teacher. She attended CSUF Teaching Academy, CTE class, worked at Fugman Elementary in the kindergarten class and has more than 614 volunteer hours helping families through the Marjaree Mason Center and the KNOW MORE program.

Editor's note: "Around the District" is a regular feature of CUSD Today that highlights positive activities and accomplishments of students and schools throughout the district. Items for consideration may be sent to cusdtoday@cUSD.com.

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➤ **Employee Briefs**

District board honors retirees

Congratulations to the 136 men and women who retired from Clovis Unified School District and were celebrated by the CUSD Governing Board in June. We are forever grateful for their care and dedication to our students.

This amazing group made up of teachers, administrators, bus drivers, nurses, librarians, custodians and more, collectively provided close to 3,200 years of service!

Joe Lenigan (Visual and Performing Arts) topped the list, having worked for Clovis Unified for 39 years.

Thank you to each of our retirees — You made a positive difference and played a key part in the district's mission to educate all children in mind, body and spirit!

The full list below includes retiree's name and number of years with the district:

Erin Adams, 6; Susan Allen, 38; Tom Andersen, 4; Julie Andrews, 31; James Antonelli, 17; Katherine Araim, 26; Joanie Ashford, 38; Faith Avina, 36; Lucy Babb, 20; Teresa Barber, 36; Lorlyn Bartel, 19; Maryann Beshears, 16; Doreen Bicksler, 26; Lisa Bizer Hansen, 19; Kerin Blasingame, 25; Laura Bradbrook, 31; Stacy Brodish, 29; Pat Brown, 28; Cheryl Brumbaugh, 28; Maverick Bruno, 22; Gracie Brunt, 31; Karen Butler, 37; Sherry Call Richards, 37; Jay Center, 30; Ron Cox, 29;

Carole Deniz Warnert, 26; John Devere, 28; Mara Dougherty, 25; Will Dunn, 22; Jeannette Erickson, 20; Brenda Evers, 31; Deserae Faith, 29; Cecilia Flores, 29; Diane Foster, 18; Robert Fox, 35; Cindy Frazier, 2; Debbie Freeman, 21; Alison Gaede, 28; Gale Galle Carroll, 20; Irma Garcia, 27; Lori Garcia, 32; Tara Garrigus, 35; Barbara Genuser, 16; Amy Gomez, 19; Yolanda Gomez, 26; Margarita Gonzalez, 30; Ralph Guzman, 25;



Rob Lambert/CUSD Today

Sandra Haikasian, 13; Lisa Halverstadt, 19; Carlla Hamilton, 20; Glenda Haux, 35; Deborah Hawk, 24; Susanne Heidt, 2; Brenda Helsel, 26; Denise Herman, 24; Lupe Hernandez Serpa, 34; Beth Hicks, 16; Karen Hill, 26; Monty Hill, 8; Brian Hirayama, 30; Terry Horak, 15; Jonathan Howerton, 33; Cynthia Huerta, 34; Iliana John Marrone, 31; Martin Johnson, 37; Norma Kawano, 20; Ralph Keeler, 18; Michael Khus Zarate, 31; Greg Knod, 20; Dale Kruser, 31; Lori Kuipers, 30;

Joe Lenigan, 39; Georgi Leonardo, 26; Maria Lorenti, 16; Corbett Loving, 32; Penney Lowder, 33; Rob Lowder, 32; Donna Lozano, 33; Darrell Mapson, 10; Stephen Martin, 35; Philicia Martin, 24; Kurt Martin, 21; Gayle Matsubara, 24; Joan Matsunaga, 25; Peggy McAllister, 31; John McGough, 15; Debbi McGuire, 13; Dawn McNair, 28; Henry Mendoza, 22; Linda Mesrobian, 38; Tina Mitchinson, 4; Phyllis Mohler, 29;

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For additional photos: <https://clovisunified.zenfolio.com/retirees2022>

National honor for CE ag teacher

Clovis East High ag teacher Aireal Covey is one of 51 teachers in the nation to receive the 2022 Honorary American FFA Degree. The award recognizes those who have created high-quality agricultural education programs that inspire and motivate students. The national award is determined from nominations made by state FFA associations.

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 Sunday, 9/18 – 4-5:15p.m. | Tuesday, 9/20, 6:30-7:45pm
 Thursday, 9/22 – 6:30-7:45pm

For Times and Reservations visit:
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Or call 559-307-6103

College Planning Fresno is a 501c (3) organization. (559) 307-6103
 Scott J. Karl is an Investment Advisor Representative of Guardian Private Wealth Management headquartered at 1024 E. Grand River Ave. Brighton, MI 48116. College Planning Services headquartered at 7321 N. Tamera Ave. Fresno, CA 93711, and Guardian Private Wealth Management are separate entities and are not affiliated. CA Insurance Lic # 0815354



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Kerman Unified School District Community Health Center 702 S. Eighth Street 559.364.2975	Kerman Dental Center / Valley Optometric Center 942 S. Madera Ave 559.364.2980	Central Fresno Community Health Center 4711 W. Ashlan Ave 559.203.6660	Dinuba Community Health Center Behavioral Health Services 920 N. Alta Avenue 559.595.1000	Dinuba Community Health Center 888 N. Alta Avenue 559.595.1000
Kerman Unified School District Community Health Center KUSD Student-Only 702 S. Eighth Street 559.364.2975	Golden Plains Unified School District Community Health Center - Tranquillity 6171 S. Daniels Avenue 559.364.2984	Bishop Community Health Center Dental Services 459 W. Line Street, Suite B 760.784.7020	Bishop Community Health Center 459 W. Line Street, Suite C 760.784.7020	COVID-19 Testing, Vaccinations & Post COVID-19 Care

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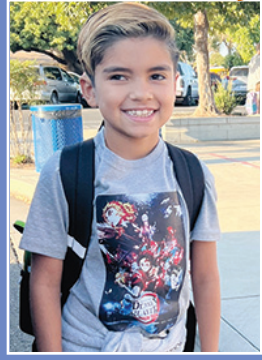
BACK TO SCHOOL



Matias, 3rd grade, Boris
and teacher
Linda Garcia



Jilian, Transitional
Kindergarten, Cedarwood



Eli
3rd grade, Cole



Emory
1st grade, Freedom



Aliyah
3rd grade, Young



Finnly
1st grade, Riverview



Marley, 8th grade, Granite Ridge
Madisyn, 6th grade, Milana, 3rd grade, Bud Rank



Cooper, 2nd grade, Mickey Cox,
with teacher Tiffany Villard



Sydney, 7th grade, Kastner
Sasha, 3rd grade, Lincoln



Geanna
Kindergarten, Gettysburg



Jacob, 10th grade
Clovis North



Emma, 2nd grade, Dylan, 3rd grade
Copper Hills



Grant
Kindergarten
Bud Rank



Justin, 7th grade, Clark
Sarah, 12th grade
Clovis High



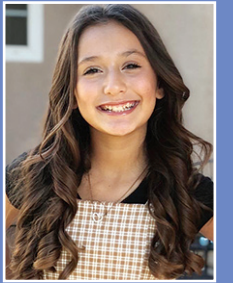
Madison, 4th grade
Lincoln, 2nd grade,
Red Bank



Carson, 4th grade, Freedom
Kenny, 7th grade, Reyburn



Zoey, 3rd grade
Aubrey, Kindergarten
Fancher Creek



Becca
7th grade
Kastner

Thank you to everyone who responded to our request for photos! We love seeing our students' smiles. It's going to be a great year!

IT'S TIME FOR YOUR CARE TO KEEP UP WITH YOU.



Community Health Partners is honored to include Dr. Andrea Chan among our talented and highly skilled team of urology specialists. She is board certified by the American Board of Urology and is a member of the American Urological Association, Western Section of the American Urological Association, and Society of Women in Urology, to name a few. Dr. Chan is one of the region's most experienced specialists - with expertise in all aspects of general urology, including urologic cancer, prostate diseases, kidney stone therapy, and incontinence. She enjoys spending time with her family, distance running, and volunteering with her church in her spare time.



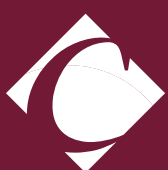
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At Community Health Partners, we're proud to work with the Valley's finest physicians, like Andrea Chan, MD. **So no matter the need, it's met by a community of the best doctors.**

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