



CAMBRIAN CONNECTION

Summer 2021 A Community Newsletter from Cambrian School District

Dear Cambrian Community,



I hope you are enjoying your summer vacation! As you may know, I will be moving on and leaving my Superintendent position in Cambrian to become Union School District's Superintendent, as of July 1st. It has been an honor and a sincere privilege to have served as Cambrian's superintendent over the past seven years. Our team has accomplished much in Cambrian over the last several years. For example:

- Passing Measure R Bond (2020); \$88 million dollar technology and facilities bond
- Initiating comprehensive land redevelopment at Metzler property (2021) that will bring in new, ongoing, unrestricted revenue, approximately \$750K with a memory care facility land lease for the community and new homes through a land exchange
- Opening Cambrian Extended Care program and Camp Cambrian
- Passing a Parcel Tax (2018) to support additional monies for staff and programs
- Implementing a comprehensive 5-Year Technology Plan (2019-2024) that guides our systemic work
- Expanding intervention learning programs and adopting many core curriculums
- Offering engaging summer learning options, camps, Cambrian extended care and ESY
- Creating/opening Steindorf K-8 STEAM School
- Developing a comprehensive facilities master plan
- Expanding Transitional Kindergarten to all elementary school sites
- Adopting energy savings solutions like solar district-wide
- Fostering community connections such as our 5K Cambrian Fun Run, Cambrian Rocks and many community events



I am thrilled that **Ms. Kristi Schwiebert**, who has served in our district for 10 years, will be the Acting Superintendent while a search for a new superintendent takes place. She is a gifted educator, leader and business professional with outstanding credentials and deep ties within the Cambrian School District.

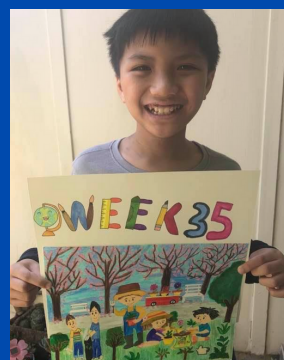
I depart with respect and gratitude to each of you for allowing me the opportunity to be Cambrian's Superintendent.

Kind regards,

Dr. Carrie Andrews

Dr. Carrie Andrews
Superintendent

We Love Cambrian Students!



THANKS
to CSD kids
for your
weekly
signs this
year in our
newsletters!



Cambrian Schools Go Above and Beyond

Fammatre Elementary School



Fammatre partnered with Branham High School students to offer each 5th grader a seedling starter kit. (Branham's Sean Sakae and Fammatre Principal Jackie Smith with seeds)

Thank you to the **Branham High School Key Club** for making seedling starter kits for each of our 5th-grade students. The Key Club student volunteers made these 56 kits with their own time and resources as a community service project. What a beautiful way to welcome Fammatre fifth-graders back to school. Happy gardening!

"We were truly touched by this kind and thoughtful gesture," said **Jackie Smith, Fammatre's principal**. "Our 5th graders were so eager to plant their seeds and watch them grow!" The 5th-grade teachers sent the kits home with students when they returned to in-person learning last month. A special thank you to one of Fammatre's amazing parents, **Aletta Godden**, for connecting the two schools.

Farnham Elementary School

Congratulations to **Farnham Elementary School fifth-grader Roi Weiss**, the overall winner of the Cambrian Educational Foundation (CEF) Read-a-thon. "I am so proud of the effort that Roi put into reading and tracking all of the pages for the Cambrian Readathon," said **Farnham Principal Amy O'Hehir**. "What an accomplishment to read 11,580 minutes of reading! Farnham is proud to have Roi be our district winner."

The CEF raised about \$30,000 through this fundraiser event, with proceeds to be used for mental health services within the district. Three hundred and sixteen CSD students participated, accruing a total of 426,595 minutes (which is 7,110 hours; or 296 and $\frac{1}{3}$ days, or 42 weeks & 2 days). Thanks to CEF for this amazing event and Roi Weiss for his extraordinary effort!



Roi Weiss, Farnham 5th-grader, wins CEF Read-a-thon, reading 11,580 minutes.

Sartorette Elementary School

Sartorette will install a creative new mural by artist **Cruz Wong**. The mural will be a collaborative expression of the school community and inspire a renewed sense of pride on campus.

"Stakeholders will be part of the process every step of the way to design an original work of art that represents all of us," said **Sartorette Principal Debbie Stein**. "All the pieces fell into place at just the right time to have this mural project reignite enthusiasm about the importance of education and the vital role schools play in children's lives and our thriving community." Mr. Wong is donating his time and talent as a community service and **City Councilmember Pam Foley** is graciously covering the cost of supplies.



Sartorette's new mural should be complete, with student input, by the end of the school year.

Cambrian Schools Go Above and Beyond



Bagby's Home & School Club provided welcome back gifts.

Bagby Elementary School

So grateful for such incredible, supportive parent support at Bagby! **Bagby's Home and School Club** generously provided staff Starbucks gift cards and Bagby swag, and all students received a 'Choose Kind' bag, hand sanitizer and reusable water bottle as a 'welcome back to school' gift. "We wanted to bring joy and brighten the days of the community our organization was founded on," said Bagby's Home & School Club Co-President **Jen Vaux**. Co-President **Lisa Hildoerfer** added, "We thought the Bagby 'swag' would be a fun welcome back to school gift."

Steindorf STEAM K-8 School

Steindorf STEAM K-8 School held a PBIS (positive behavioral interventions & supports) project launch on **Resiliency**, with a redwood theme. "The idea was that fire actually makes redwoods stronger. We likened that to what we are going through and how this will make us stronger as well," said Steindorf principal Lisa MacFarland. During a school-wide assembly, teachers spoke about resiliency and two students created a fantastic video on the topic. Thanks to the Home & School Club for purchasing redwood t-shirts for students and staff!



Steindorf launched a resiliency campaign, and each student received a "Steindorf Strong" t-shirt



Price's Gabriella Wong wins county-wide multimedia contest

Price Middle School

Congratulations to Price 7th grader **Gabriella Wong** on winning 1st place for the **2021 Silicon Valley Reads Multimedia Contest**: "Connecting - the universal human ability to build resilience by looking for people, places and things that provide comfort and joy during tough times." Her work will be celebrated at the Santa Clara County Office of Education during the **Young Artists and SV Reads Showcase Virtual Celebration** in May. "Gabriella is a hard working, talented student," said **Price Principal Natalie Gioco**. "We are very proud of her accomplishments."

Celebrating

Classified & Certificated Employees for 2020-21 School Year

District Certificated Employee of the Year: Carolyn Sullivan

District Classified Employee of the Year: Debbie Miller

Bagby Elementary School: Kokob Gebermariam & Carolyn Sullivan

Fammatre Elementary School: Bruno Fleming & Elizabeth Parker

Farnham Elementary School: Tracy Gigliello & Vy Pham

Ida Price Middle School: Debbie Miller & Angela Kochiyama

Sartorette Elementary School: Lori Zendejas & Amanda Nelson

Steindorf K-8 School: Rachele Feller & Dan Winsor

Virtual School Program: Pam Craig

District Office: Tom Vo



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FROM JAROD MIDDLETON

CSD School Board President



So there I was...minding my own business March 13, 2020, when the email notice went out: "SCHOOL CLOSURE". Thankfully, all of our teachers and staff had experience in World Pandemics and college degrees in "Zoom teaching techniques". Oh wait--they didn't. How long would Covid last? How am I going to teach online using something called "zoom"? I can't go to work--can't work from home, so how am I going to pay bills? Both parents HAVE to work, so who can stay home with my 1st grader? As a School Board, I thought, how can we meet families' needs?

But guess what? We came through. It was painful, but here we are. Kids went back to school. Teachers and staff have been given the vaccine. On the first day back in the hybrid model, I walked into one of the elementary schools during recess. The front office staff and Principal said, "Listen to that sound!" (children laughing and playing in the background); "it's just sooooo wonderful to hear that sound again." Although everyone was wearing masks and their classrooms looked different, they were excited to be at school.

It takes a village, my people. Some wanted to come back sooner than we did and some still are not ready to come back, but this village tried to make the absolute best decisions for everyone. I just ask that we stick together, and most of all, respect each other's opinions and individual comfort levels. I look forward to our lives getting back to normal, to hugging our loved ones, to everyone receiving the vaccine, and to going back to school full-time next school year. Take care of yourselves, your family... and your village.

Jarod Middleton, President of the Cambrian Board of Trustees

Board of Trustees members: Carol Presunka, Randy Scofield, Janet Gillis, and Donald Rocha