

November  
2023

# TUSD NEWS

Tracy Unified School District



Published the first Friday of each month

Superintendent's Office



**Board Meeting:**

November 14

**ERMs:** November 6,13,27

**Job Fair:** November 4 @ 9:00  
TUSD District Office

**Anti-Bullying Event:** November 6  
@6:00 p.m. Kimball High Gym

**Veteran's Day:** November 10

**KHS Theater Dedication:**  
November 16 @ 7:00

**Thanksgiving Break:**  
November 20 - 24

**TUSD Info Page:** [View Here](#)

(Click the link from the District Homepage)



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## In the Spotlight

Please take a moment to read through our school's learning activities and exciting events below! Follow this link:

[In the Spotlight page](#)

## Dr. Rob Pecot, Superintendent

Gerri Neylan is a phenomenal educator. I had the privilege of working directly with Ms. Neylan from 2014-2018 while serving as the Kimball High School Principal. Watching Ms. Neylan work every day was impressive, to say the least. It goes without saying that Ms. Neylan is talented. She is an excellent teacher, communicator, and is highly organized. Her performances are legendary, and with good reason. The first time I went to a school performance I could not believe I was watching high school students. The acting, singing, props, choreography, costumes, and audio/tech were something that you would see on Broadway. The rhythm in which Ms. Neylan, her students, families, and community worked in unison was extraordinary. The audiences' expectations were always exceeded, a difficult accomplishment considering the fan fair coming into a performance.

Maybe the most impressive thing about Gerri Neylan is her work ethic and her desire to include. Everyone sees and hears the buzz during performance time, but only those on the inside know what Ms. Neylan does to pull off one of her masterpieces. Ms. Neylan, her husband, parents, students, and community members could be seen most Saturdays and Sundays working toward a performance. It is unfathomable the countless hours that Ms. Neylan and her team have put in for the betterment of Kimball High School and the Tracy Community. Ms. Neylan's efforts do not stop there, she invites everyone to participate in her performances. I have seen students, teachers, administrators, and community members who find their way into performances that would not normally be willing to put themselves on stage. Through the magic of Ms. Neylan people feel comfortable and are willing to do anything for her.

I was proud to work with Ms. Neylan; I was proud to honor her as the Tracy Chamber of Commerce Educator of the Year; I am proud to dedicate the Kimball High School Performing Arts Theatre after Ms. Gerri Neylan. Please join me on November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. to make the naming of the Gerri Neylan Performing Arts Theatre official. Ms. Neylan has touched the lives of so many during her tenure, I hope you can take the time to honor an educator that has truly made a difference in our community.

## EDUCATIONAL SERVICES



## TUSD LIBRARIES

### Libraries

TUSD Libraries provide a rich variety of resources to students, families and staff, so many that no one can remember them all! Here are some reminders of the best of the best and some new additions that you can access in [Clever>Library Resources](#).

**ProQuest Homework Central:** This link connects you to six different resources including **PBS Video** which has just added the **Performing Arts Collection**. This is a truly remarkable and diverse collection of Music, Dance and Theatre content, covering hundreds of genres and a wide range of content types, from instruction to performance. Leading content providers include the L.A. Theatre Works, National Theatre, Royal Shakespeare Company, Qwest TV, Smithsonian, Broadway On-Demand, and many more. This is in addition to the over 1,600 videos already in the collection of documentaries, panel discussions,



## GATE Program

**Gifted & Talented Education (GATE) Info Night:  
November 16, 2023  
6:00PM – 7:00PM**

Monte Vista Middle School  
751 Lowell Avenue, Tracy  
Multipurpose Room/Library

Come join us to learn what our Tracy Unified School District Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) Program has to offer. Information on the application process, program criteria, program overview and student Genius Hour Passion Projects will be shared.



## Delta College Early College Program (ECP)

Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup> the first TUSD 9<sup>th</sup> grade cohort of students had their first check in meeting for the year in the board room with Delta College ECP Program staff and Associate Superintendent Julianna Stocking. The meeting was to check in with students and their parents to assist the group in signing up for their next courses in the spring of 2024. The goal of the ECP Program is for students to take a designated set of courses throughout high school, to complete their Associate of Arts (AA) or Associate of Science (AS) upon their completion of high school. TUSD will continue to host check in meetings to ensure our student are on track and receive necessary supports throughout the program.

In the Spring of 2024, the next TUSD 8<sup>th</sup> grade cohort of students will be provided information to begin a second cohort of TUSD students.

## Fall Youth Leadership Conference 2023

Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, TUSD high school and middle school students will attend the Fall Youth Leadership Conference 2023. San Joaquin Delta College, working in partnership with the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) Stockton Council 2060, the San Joaquin County Office of Education, Local School Districts and numerous community service organizations will be holding its Fall

news stories, cartoons, instructional programs, and more.

**Live, Online Tutoring 27/7: HelpNow California** provides **live, online tutoring for homework help** in ELA and Math, 24/7 in English and in Spanish. From 10am to 10pm, the help is available in many more subjects, and in Tagalog, Mandarin, Cantonese, and Vietnamese. There is also tutoring for adult ESL from beginning to advanced. We want all our students and their families to know about and use this amazing resource.

**Gale Resources>Gale Interactive Science:** This is a great resource to support STEM instruction. Science comes to life as you **zoom, rotate, and explore interactive 3D models**. Students can explore the human heart's valves and chambers, travel around in an underground cave, play games to learn atomic structures, dissect a frog or fetal pig, and much more. Users can search for interactive models by science discipline and state standards in science, math and English language arts.

In 2023-24, **TUSD Libraries continues to update our print collections** with funding through the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP). Two years ago, 11 sites had collections with an average age over 20 years; today, none do. Two years ago, only one site's collection was less than 15 years old; today, seven are. "Younger" collections are more relevant and engaging for our readers and so they are motivated to read more. Last year, TUSD Libraries increased the number of books/student and checked out over 175,000 books!

TUSD Libraries connects students and staff to the Stockton-San Joaquin Public Library system through Sora, our digital platform for e-books and audiobooks. With only their TUSD login, students can access grade-appropriate materials in the county's public library system. Checkouts of TUSD's digital library materials have more than doubled in the last year (16,000 last year to 35,000 so far this calendar year) and unique users have increased by 50% over the same time period.

Please contact your library staff to learn more about the resources of your site's library. Your library staff is eager to support you in gaining access to all these resources and information.

## TECHNOLOGY

**Technology Coordinator** ISET welcomes our new Technology Coordinator, Daniel Gutierrez. Daniel has been with ISET since 2012 as a Network Tech 3. He will continue to bring to ISET his expertise on Networking, Aeries, Data Management, O365 Applications and Security, Clever Integration to name a few.

**Cyber Security Awareness** Thank you for participating in this month's Cyber Security Awareness Campaign. During the fall break, we launched simulated phishing attacks. We will continue to launch simulated phishing attacks throughout the coming months to raise awareness of the different types of potentially phishing emails so we may proactively learn how to defend ourselves against cyber threats. If you receive a potentially malicious email, or emails from unknown sources, the best way to prevent potential infiltration is to tag the email as "Phishing" in Outlook. Please **DO NOT** forward emails to avoid the spread of potentially malicious emails.

**Esports Lab at THS** The new THS Esports lab is now in full gear and is doing amazing in their first season! Students are practicing and are currently competing against other school districts in Esports tournaments. This is a great start in the realm of virtual sports competitions.

The THS Gaming Twitch channel is also experiencing growth and appears to be the only team in the league currently streaming their matches. In addition, they have started to archive these games, complete with post-game interviews for added insights.

Here is a link to a match against Downey High

School: <https://www.twitch.tv/videos/1961141371?t=00h16m27s>. Best of luck to the THS Esports team.

## Future Projects

**Electronic Paystubs** In partnership with the San Joaquin County Finance Department, we can have the ability to receive our paystubs electronically rather than through regular USPS mail. This feature is only available to staff members who have ACH (Automated Clearing House) or Direct Deposit already setup with TUSD payroll. In the coming days, I will send out a Forms survey called, "Electronic Paystub Opt-in Form" to get the information of those who are interested in converting to electronic paystubs. This convenient feature is purely on voluntary basis.

Youth Leadership Conference 2023 on Friday, November 3, 2023, at San Joaquin Delta College, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This is a great opportunity that will feature Keynote Speaker Retired NASA Astronaut Jose Hernandez and the event will provide workshops for students focused on:

- Encourage students to stay in school and graduate from High School
- Encourage students to pursue post-secondary educational opportunities, especially those in under-represented groups
- Encourage Student Enrollment at San Joaquin Delta College while they are still in High School to achieve their objective of Post-Secondary Education
- Inspire students to realize their educational objectives and professional potential through enrollment in San Joaquin Delta College articulated coursework while they are still in High School.

## HUMAN RESOURCES

Human Resources is hosting a recruitment fair for certificated positions on Saturday, November 4 from 9:00 – 12:00. The recruitment event is for teaching and speech pathologist positions. It will be held at the District Education Center, Board Room, 1875 West Lowell Avenue, Tracy.

### Calling All Alumni!

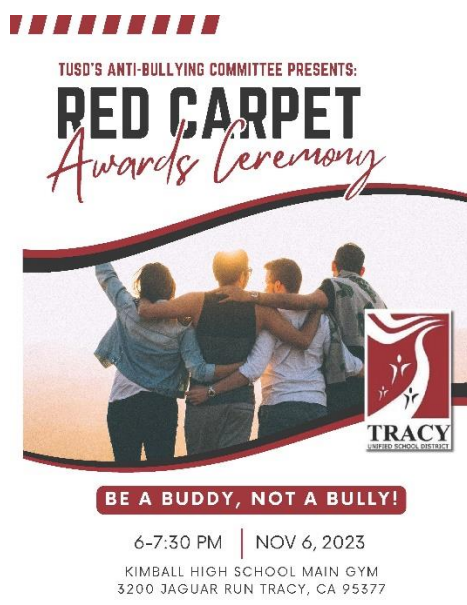


**Did you know?** We have an [ALUMNI PAGE](#) that can be found from the District's homepage in the upper right-hand corner. We need your help so that we can provide the latest information. If you know of a reunion or class event that your class is having, please [SEND INFO](#) and we will post it on this page.

## NIGHT SECURITY

Did you know that TUSD has night security? Our night security team consists of Steward Rivers, Davin Lawson, Hector Mota and Nicholas Buggs. The team responds to alarm calls, performs camera surveillance and foot patrol at sites after hours to ensure there are no trespassers or facility emergencies on campus. They make sure gates are locked and perimeters are secure so that when

**GoGuardian Parent App** We have received some requests from parents regarding the use of their child's laptop at home. In this digital world, although exposure to vastly available information is pertinent to growth, we also need to be aware of the students' screentime. GoGuardian Parent App allows the parents to have added control over web filtering, internet access, screen time and much more on top of the parameters we already set on the student devices. More information to come as we get closer to setting this up.



## ANTI-BULLYING EVENT:

At the Tracy Unified School District, we stand united against all forms of bullying. We are committed to fostering an environment where every individual feels respected, valued, and safe. Bullying in any shape or form undermines the very essence of our community, and as such, we have a zero-tolerance policy towards such behavior.

We believe in the power of kindness, empathy, and inclusivity. Bullying, be it physical, verbal, or emotional, has no place in our halls, classrooms, or digital spaces. We are dedicated to creating a culture where differences are celebrated and where every voice is heard.

We encourage open dialogue and a sense of responsibility among our students, faculty, and staff. Reporting incidents of bullying is not just an obligation but a vital step in ensuring a safe and supportive environment for all. We are here to support and protect every member of our community.

Education is key in our efforts to combat bullying. Through awareness, intervention, and support, we aim to empower our community to stand up against bullying in all its forms. The month of October was National Anti-Bullying month. As such TUSD held an Anti-bullying poster, poem, and short story contest for its students. We believe that by working together, we can create a school environment where everyone feels safe, respected, and included. The students who participated in this contest will be honored at a Red-Carpet event at Kimball High School on Monday November 6<sup>th</sup>. Many dignitaries will be on hand to honor the efforts of these students.

Together, we will continue to educate, advocate, and take action to ensure that bullying has no place in our schools. Let us stand hand in hand, unified in our commitment to create a culture of

## PROFESSIONAL LEARNING for New Teachers

We continue to welcome new teachers to Tracy Unified through our Tracy Teacher Induction Program. This program offers new teachers to TUSD, regardless of credential status, the opportunity to meet district leaders and colleagues while engaging in professional learning. Our new teachers in this program are also able to observe veteran teachers throughout the district engaging students learning utilizing TUSD's key instructional practices, debrief their experiences, and plan for their own classrooms. TUSD Curriculum Specialists facilitate this learning with our new hires are available for follow-up supports.

TUSD's Accredited Preliminary Credential Induction Program is off to a great start with 62 year 1 and 2 candidates. All candidates are engaged in the inquiry process and researching and implementing best instructional practices. Candidates are engaged and supported throughout this process with a mentor they can collaborate with. TUSD is proud to be able to offer this job-embedded program at no cost to support our Preliminary Credentialed teachers in clearing their credentials with California Commission on Teaching Credentialing.

The Professional Learning Department is continuing to support of our new teachers in our Peer Coaching program who are working towards their preliminary credentials, continuous coaching supports, professional learning workshops, and test-preparation workshops. Our professional learning workshops are open to all educators and are grounded in the CSTPs to support teachers with resources around classroom management, lesson planning, student assessments and reflections, and so much more. More information can be found on the Go Sign Me Up site. This year RICA and TPA workshops are in-person and off to a great start. Amanda Bailey, Curriculum specialists has created a series of foundational literacy workshops to support candidates in understanding the foundations of literacy instruction and how it aligns with the components of RICA. To sign-up for workshops, please go to Go Sign Me Up. If you are needing support with TPAs, Christina Orsi is

students and staff come to campus every morning the campus is safe and secure. TUSD is thankful for the work they do to keep our campuses safe overnight.

## SPELLING BEE WINNERS

The San Joaquin County Office of Education Spelling Bee students were buzzing with talent! We had such great spellers that they went overtime and into the challenge lists! Great job and congratulations to all!

### Grades 4-6

1st: Aneesh Shah, SouthWest Park 5<sup>th</sup>  
 2nd: Dylan Iokua, Hirsch 5<sup>th</sup>  
 3rd: Lia Taing, Williams 6<sup>th</sup>  
 4th: Damir Igissionov, Hirsch 4<sup>th</sup>

### Grades 7-9

1st: Sahithi Chiluveru, Monte Vista 7<sup>th</sup>  
 2nd: Shreya Mahendran, Monte Vista 7<sup>th</sup>  
 3rd: Bhavya Vakil, Poet Christian 7<sup>th</sup>  
 4th: Loveleen Rattu, North 8<sup>th</sup>



## Informational Links

Keeping you in the Know

*Superintendent's Office*

[Board Meeting Info](#)  
[Employment Opportunities](#)

### STAFF ONLY:

[2023-24 Calendars](#)  
[Bell Schedules](#)  
[E-forms](#)  
[Phone Directories](#)

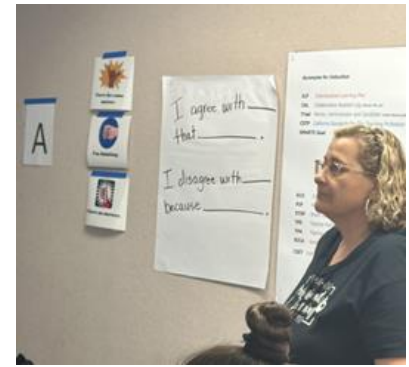
kindness and respect. Join us in our pledge against bullying. Together, we can make a difference.



## FOOD SERVICES

The TUSD Food Service (FS) Supervisors are members of the California School Nutrition Association (CSNA) whose mission is, "Educating and empowering members to provide healthy meals to foster an environment where children achieve overall wellness and lifelong success," and their vision is for students to be well-nourished and prepared for success. Along with the FS Director and Coordinator, they attended the CSNA 71<sup>st</sup> annual conference on October 26-28. The theme was, "Essential Pieces – Pieces That are Needed to Make Your TEAM Work." They had the opportunity to attend educational sessions, to network with peers and colleagues, and to attend the school food service exhibition. At the end of the conference, they returned inspired, energized, and ready to implement changes that will increase kitchen efficiencies and create a positive dining experience for students. Thank you to all TUSD food service staff who keep our students fed every day!

available for just-in-time support, please email her at [corsi@tusd.net](mailto:corsi@tusd.net) schedule an appointment.



## TUSD INFO PAGE

The latest updates

*Superintendent's Office*

Check out the [TUSD INFO PAGE](#) for important information including TUSD Programs, Bell Schedules, Calendar and Heat Risk Assessment.

Please also remember that each of our school sites have their own website and Facebook pages. From the District [HOME PAGE](#) you can use the drop-down list of schools in the upper right-hand corner to find your site!

## Work for TUSD!

Current Job Openings

*Human Resources*

Are you looking for a new job opportunity? Check out our current openings: [JOB OPENINGS](#)



Next Job Fair: Nov. 4 - 9:00-12:00  
 District Office, 1875 W. Lowell Ave.,  
 Board Room, Tracy, CA

**COME JOIN OUR TEAM!!**

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