

VOLUME 4
DECEMBER, 2023

THE GUS D PRESENTS... GROOVE

**PRESS
Release**

***FOUR GUSD STUDENTS HONORED BY ROTARY**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE OF THE GROOVE!

- GUSD ROTARY STUDENTS OF THE MONTH!
- TOP TEN TIPS FOR PARENTS TO HELP YOUR STUDENT!
- IMPORTANT CALENDAR DATES FOR UPCOMING GUSD EVENTS!



GUSD
LET'S CONNECT!

QUICK HITS!

- PREPARE FOR LAUNCH! ON DECEMBER 20TH THE GUSD WILL BE UNVEILING ITS NEW WEBSITE!
- SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN OUR DISTRICT'S STRATEGIC PLAN ON JANUARY 18TH & 19TH!



WHAT'S HAPPENING!

- Dec 14 2023
BSA Christmas Literacy Night
- Dec 15 2023
BSA Sing-A-Long TK-5th Grade & Band/Orchestra
- **December 15**
SLS Music Program (TK-5, 6-8 music) 9:00 AM - 9:45 AM
- Winter Recess: 12/20/23-1/8/24

ROTARY STUDENTS OF THE SEMESTER!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO 8TH GRADE STUDENTS:
BUCKEYE SCHOOL OF THE ARTS**

MIKAYLA MEEKS

SHASTA LAKE SCHOOL

LUNA BLANKENSHIP

**CONGRATULATIONS TO HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS:
CENTRAL VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL**

ALINA SMUTZ

MOUNTAIN LAKES HIGH SCHOOL

LANDEN MORTON



**SHINE
SHINE
SHINE**

Top 10 Parent Tips

TO HELP YOUR STUDENT!

- 1. ESTABLISH A CONSISTENT ROUTINE: ENCOURAGE YOUR STUDENT TO ESTABLISH A REGULAR ROUTINE FOR HOMEWORK, STUDYING, AND BEDTIME. CONSISTENCY CAN HELP CREATE A SENSE OF STABILITY AND IMPROVE FOCUS.**
- 2. CREATE A DESIGNATED STUDY SPACE: SET UP A QUIET, WELL-LIT AREA IN YOUR HOME WHERE YOUR STUDENT CAN STUDY AND COMPLETE HOMEWORK WITHOUT DISTRACTIONS.**
- 3. ENCOURAGE REGULAR COMMUNICATION: STAY IN TOUCH WITH YOUR STUDENT'S TEACHERS TO STAY UPDATED ON THEIR PROGRESS, AND ENCOURAGE OPEN COMMUNICATION BETWEEN YOU, YOUR STUDENT, AND THEIR EDUCATORS.**
- 4. SUPPORT HEALTHY HABITS: ENCOURAGE HEALTHY EATING, REGULAR EXERCISE, AND ADEQUATE SLEEP TO HELP YOUR STUDENT STAY FOCUSED AND ENERGIZED THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL DAY.**
- 5. FOSTER A LOVE OF READING: SET ASIDE TIME FOR READING AT HOME AND VISIT THE LOCAL LIBRARY TO EXPLORE DIFFERENT GENRES AND TOPICS.**
- 6. EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF ORGANIZATION: TEACH YOUR STUDENT THE VALUE OF ORGANIZATION BY USING PLANNERS, CALENDARS, AND CHECKLISTS TO KEEP TRACK OF ASSIGNMENTS, PROJECTS, AND IMPORTANT DATES.**
- 7. PRIORITIZE INVOLVEMENT IN SCHOOL ACTIVITIES: ENCOURAGE YOUR STUDENT TO PARTICIPATE IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, CLUBS, AND EVENTS TO HELP THEM DEVELOP NEW SKILLS AND INTERESTS.**
- 8. PROMOTE A GROWTH MINDSET: ENCOURAGE YOUR STUDENT TO EMBRACE CHALLENGES AND VIEW MISTAKES AS OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING AND GROWTH.**
- 9. SET REALISTIC GOALS: WORK WITH YOUR STUDENT TO SET ACHIEVABLE SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM ACADEMIC GOALS, AND CELEBRATE THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS ALONG THE WAY.**
- 10. BE A POSITIVE ROLE MODEL: DEMONSTRATE A POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS LEARNING AND EDUCATION, AND SHOW YOUR STUDENT THE IMPORTANCE OF PERSEVERANCE AND RESILIENCE IN THE FACE OF CHALLENGES.**

GUSD UPDATE

SITE & DISTRICT REPORTS



BUCKEYE SCHOOL

Kindergarten Pie Social and Awards

Kindergarten families enjoyed a wonderful opportunity to celebrate their students. Did I mention there was pie? Mrs. Carpenter presented awards and certificates to kinder students followed by a wonderful Kindergarten Pie Social.

Attendance Raffle

With help from Stifel Investment Services we were able to award mom, Jessica Shirley, a beautiful gift basket as part of our Attendance Initiative for the first trimester. Congrats to Jessica and her son, Joel Vineyard.

Family Literacy Night

Family Literacy Night, to be held on December 14th, 2023, provides our families and staff the opportunity to come together and celebrate. Each student is given a free book courtesy of Kiwanis. Cookies and hot cocoa are provided along with games, activities and prizes. The Kindergarten performance which includes holiday classics is always fun to watch. You never know when Santa and/or The Grinch may show up.

TK-5th Sing-A-Long

TK-5th Grade students, families, and staff gather to celebrate the holidays with some extremely talented musical performances. This year, we were honored to be joined by Charlene Gray and her students, who shared some Native American songs with us. One of our favorite yearly activities!

Awards Assembly

We gathered this month in order to celebrate and recognize so many of our students in the areas of behavior, academics, and attendance. Huge THANK YOU to all our families who joined in celebrating our students. It was an amazing event with over 200 students being recognized for their achievements and efforts this first trimester.

Kiwanis Donation

I would like to thank Kiwanis for yet another generous donation to our school and families. Kiwanis donated the money to cover the cost of all the books given to our students at our Family Literacy Night. Kiwanis has also supported our families through the donations of turkeys at Thanksgiving, hams for Christmas and many other endeavors. THANK YOU!

Happy Holidays!

From All the Staff at Buckeye School of the Arts:

Have a safe and happy Winter Recess.

We will see you all next year!



BUCKEYE SCHOOL





CENTRAL VALLEY

HIGH SCHOOL

SPORTS

CVHS BOYS' BASKETBALL HOSTED RALLY IN THE VALLEY DECEMBER 7-9 FOR JUNIOR VARSITY AND VARSITY TEAMS FROM AROUND THE NORTHSTATE. THE TEAMS HAD A GREAT TIME WITH THE COMPETITION LEVEL. A HUGE SHOUT-OUT TO OUR VOLUNTEERS, PARENTS, FOOD SERVICES' CLASSES, AND BOOSTERS FOR MAKING THE TOURNAMENT A SUCCESS.

GIRLS WILL BE HOSTING THEIR TOURNAMENT DECEMBER 14-16 AND PARTICIPATING IN THE TOURNAMENT AS WELL. PLEASE COME TO THE HIGH SCHOOL TO SUPPORT THIS WEEKEND.

WRESTLING IS OFF AND COMPETING. MANY OF OUR ATHLETES HAVE MEDED IN THEIR LAST TWO TOURNAMENTS. THEY WILL BE TRAVELING TO TOURNAMENTS THROUGHOUT DECEMBER.

CLUBS/EXTRACURRICULAR

OUR ASB CLASS IS IN ITS BUSIEST TIME OF THE YEAR. THE CLASS DECORATED SHASTA DAM BOULEVARD BY PAINTING LOCAL BUSINESSES' WINDOWS FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON. IN ADDITION, THE CLASS WAS IN CHARGE OF THE RALLY FOR *RALLY IN THE VALLEY*. STAFF AND STUDENTS HAD A GREAT TIME PLAYING GAMES WITH THE SENIORS, THE ULTIMATE RALLY WINNERS.

ROBOTICS WERE TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS IN CHICO, AND THEY WILL TRAVEL TO KLAMATH FALLS ON DECEMBER 16 FOR ANOTHER COMPETITION.

MUSIC HAD THEIR WINTER CONCERT ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13 IN TALON HALL. THE BAND, ORCHESTRA, AND CHOIR ALL PERFORMED SHOWCASING THEIR TALENTS.

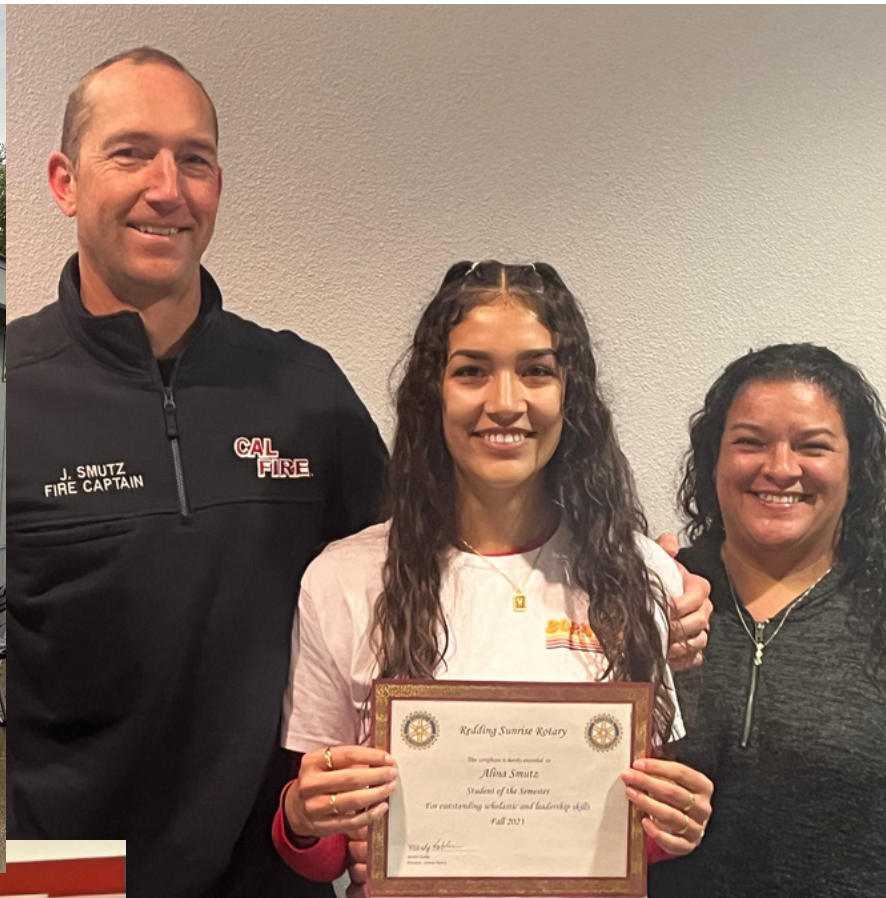
ACADEMICS

FINALS ARE QUICKLY APPROACHING. STUDENTS ARE EAGER TO WRAP UP THEIR FALL SEMESTER FOCUSING ON THEIR GRADES TO BE ON THE HONOR ROLL OR PRINCIPAL'S HONOR ROLL. STUDENTS ARE USING THEIR ACHIEVE DAYS TO GET A SOLID UNDERSTANDING OF KEY CONCEPTS AND STANDARDS.

NEW PATHWAYS FOR CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION CLASSES ARE BEING EXPLORED FOR THE UPCOMING SCHOOL YEAR TO EXPAND OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS.

CENTRAL VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

FEEL THE FALCON PRIDE!





GRAND OAKS

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

We are celebrating the season with joy! December brings exciting events to our school. Students are participating in the Winter Music Performance, special activities and class parties this month. Wishing everyone a joyful holiday season filled with warmth, laughter, and learning! Happy Holidays from the Grand Oaks Family!

Winter Music Performances

Ms. Beadle did an amazing job leading her students at the Winter Music Performance. Students sang and danced to many wonderful holiday songs. There were 3 performances with standing room only. It was great to see so many families come out to support their children.

Santa Shop

The Parent Club is hosting our annual Santa Shop where students can shop for inexpensive gifts to give to family and friends.

Kindergarten Oral Health

Each kindergarten classroom participated in a dental education presentation about caring for their teeth and screening completed by a dental assistant.

Holiday Spirit Days

Grand Oaks students will be showing their holiday spirit the last two days before break. There will be a winter pajama day and holiday sweater day.



GRAND OAKS





MOUNTAIN LAKES GATEWAY EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS/COMMUNITY DAY SCHOOLS

The School Site Council Committee met on November 15th and approved the school safety plans along with the Community Schools grant budget. The next meeting is coming up on December 12th and we will be reviewing our school site budgets. All are welcome to attend!

The Rotary Club is honoring one of our graduating seniors on December 8th. Landon Morton was nominated by the staff to receive the award because of his hard work, great attitude and his never ending kindness towards others. We are very proud of Landon and look forward to hearing what direction he goes after graduation!

Our annual Holiday Feast is coming up on December 19th. The Central Valley kitchen team prepares an amazing holiday meal for all of our students. The MLHS and CDS staff help serve the students and practice mealtime etiquette together.

Session 3 is quickly coming to a close on December 19th. When we return from the break on January 9th and begin the 4th session with a couple of new elective options. Students will be able to take College & Career Exploration and Financial Literacy courses. The Mountain Lakes teachers are always willing to adjust their schedules based on what the students need.



SHASTA LAKE SCHOOL

Parent Club put on their annual Pie Social on Thursday 16th and it was a great success! Everyone got plenty of pie to eat and amazing gift baskets were raffled off.

December 6th marks the end to 6th, 7th, and 8th-grade girls basketball. They had a great season and represented our school well.

The School Site Council Committee will meet on Monday, December 11th. They will be reviewing the site's Safety Plan.

The Winter Dance for 6th, 7th, and 8th-grade students will be Thursday, December 14. This is the last dance of 2023 and will be great!

TK-5th grade students, 6th-8th grade music students, Mrs. Sommers, and Ms. Beadle will be presenting their annual Music Program on Friday, December 15th at 9:00 am in the gym. It will be great!

Santa Shop will be available for students to purchase affordable gifts for their families from Thursday, December 14th through Monday, December 18th. Schedules to be announced.

Tuesday, December 19th is Ugly Sweater Day. Be sure to wear your extra tacky winter sweaters to have extra school spirit on the last day before Winter Break!



SHASTA LAKE SCHOOL



TECHNOLOGY

SPYGLASS AUDIT CONFIRMS EXCELLENT CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS FOR SOFTWARE AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE RESULTS OF A RECENT EXTERNAL AUDIT CONDUCTED BY SPYGLASS, A LEADING TECHNOLOGY EXPENSE MANAGEMENT FIRM. THE AUDIT REVIEWED OUR DISTRICT'S SOFTWARE AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES CONTRACTS AND FOUND THEM TO BE SIGNIFICANTLY BELOW PRICING IN OUR AREA. THIS AUDIT CONFIRMS THAT OUR TECHNOLOGY AND BUSINESS DEPARTMENTS HAVE EFFECTIVELY NEGOTIATED CONTRACTS THAT MAXIMIZE VALUE FOR OUR DISTRICT.

WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT THIS INDEPENDENT VALIDATION OF OUR PROCUREMENT PRACTICES WILL FURTHER ENHANCE OUR REPUTATION AS A RESPONSIBLE AND FINANCIALLY SOUND SCHOOL DISTRICT. WE REMAIN COMMITTED TO PROVIDING OUR STUDENTS AND STAFF WITH THE BEST POSSIBLE RESOURCES WHILE MANAGING OUR FINANCES WITH THE UTMOST CARE.

WE ARE THRILLED TO LAUNCH OUR NEW WEBSITES THIS MONTH. KEEP YOUR EYES OUT FOR A FRESH LOOK AT OUR DISTRICT ALONG WITH ALL OF OUR CAMPUSES. THANKS TO SAN PHAN FOR WORKING THROUGH THIS PROCESS WITH OUR DISTRICT OFFICE!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT

What a month we have had – we have wrapped up our first budget update for the year and will enjoy the nice break at the end of the month. As a little change, I would like to start a monthly focus on the staff of the Business Department. This month I would like to introduce you to our Accountant, Lamara Kingston. Lamara has been with GUSD since 2007 when she started as a Bus Driver. She then quickly stepped up to Dispatcher in 2009. In 2014, she was the Office Manager at CVHS and came to the Business Dept in 2016 to do Payroll. Then, finally in 2019, amidst many changes and challenges, Lamara was promoted to Accountant where she has been instrumental in budgeting and reporting on many of our grants and funding resources. Lamara has been married to her husband Steve for 32 years and they have 2 grown children that have gone through our Gateway schools. Candace is a nurse at Stanford Medical Center and is newly married this year. Kevin is an officer in the Navy and is spending his days in the wet state of Washington and making his parents very proud!

Thank you Lamara for your dedication to GUSD – we are so lucky to have you as a part of our business family!

TRANSPORTATION

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE GUSD TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT!

Transportation has concluded the required hours necessary for the upcoming California Highway Patrol examinations! We have been busy conducting the required hours necessary for the upcoming **California Highway Patrol** examinations!

The Transportation Team have **ALL** worked collaboratively during these demanding times of Training.

The goal is to acquire two more drivers come the New Year! With the weather changing please apply the **California Basic Speed Law** that, *"prohibits driving at a speed that is greater than is reasonable or prudent having due regard for visibility, weather, the traffic on, and the surface and width of, the highway, and in no event at a speed which endangers the safety of persons or property."*

The Transportation team has all worked really hard together while Kristen Best has been at training out of the office. Thanks to all of them for their collective effort!

The department has a goal o acquire two more drivers by the the New Year!



INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

Save the Date! On January 11th from 5-6 pm, Instructional Services will hold a community night at the Larry J. Farr Community Center in Shasta Lake. We'll be looking for community input on various topics – not just instruction– to help shape our District's vision and priorities moving forward. This input will also be used to shape how we use funds (LCAP, Title I, etc). It's an informal event, and rumor has it the CVHS Culinary Arts program may be serving some of their amazing soups. As such, we will need attendees to RSVP by calling (530) 245-7900.

Instructional Services is continuing to get input from teachers and staff about curriculum and training needs and is researching solutions. We've acquired a math supplemental for grades third through eighth which will provide teachers and students more support in math instruction. Teachers will be able to learn more about this program, as well as collaborate on math instruction, as just one part of the professional development day when we return in January.

We're always impressed with the high-quality instruction provided by our amazing teachers in GUSD. Thank you for your hard work!

STUDENT SERVICES

NOW THAT WE ARE IN THE HOLIDAY SEASON OUR DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN PARTNERING WITH NORTH VALLEY CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES IN THEIR ADOPT-A-FAMILY PROGRAM. THIS PROGRAM CONNECTED FIVE FAMILIES TO SPONSORS THAT DONATED GIFTS FOR EACH HOUSEHOLD.

EACH SEMESTER, THE REDDING SUNRISE ROTARY RECOGNIZES SELECT GATEWAY STUDENTS FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION. THIS YEAR'S FOUR "FALL STUDENTS OF THE SEMESTER" WERE MIKAYLA MEEKS, LUNA BLANKENSHIP, ALINA SMUTZ, AND LANDON MORTON. THE CEREMONY WAS HELD AT CENTRAL VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL WHERE THEY WERE HONORED, ALONG WITH THEIR FAMILIES, WITH A BREAKFAST PREPARED AND SERVED BY OUR CVHS CULINARY CLASS. THANK YOU TO MR. FREMO FOR PROVIDING A FABULOUS BREAKFAST! CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HONORED STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES!

OUR INDIAN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS EXCITED TO WELCOME KYLEE KING TO THE PARA POSITION AT SHASTA LAKE SCHOOL AND GRAND OAKS. SHE IS LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING AND SUPPORTING THE STUDENTS ON SITE.

MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION **FOOD SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

A big thank you to all the custodial and maintenance staff for their continued hard work as we reach the halfway point of the school year. District-wide the new modernization of our HVAC thermostat system to an active, real time monitoring system in our District classrooms is almost complete. The thermostats also monitor CO2 in the classroom. This new monitoring will aid in utility conservation as well as better classroom management from a heating and cooling standpoint. Thank you to the site staff for being understanding during all the installation and room certification for the CalShape requirements. The LED lighting project should get underway soon, @ Jan 2nd at the CVHS football field. The construction team had been waiting due to supply issues for special mounts, etc. that have to be used.

On the Nutrition side, Food Services is continuing to provide those healthy, nutritious breakfasts and lunches. Daily meal prepping for 1000 breakfasts and 2380 lunches is a lot of work District-wide. I know the Food Services staff will enjoy their break as we reach the halfway point in the year and kudos to them for feeding those students that partake in the program daily.

HAPPY
Holidays

GUSD
LET'S CONNECT!