

School Shout Outs



Almond Elementary: Congrats to newly Reclassified Scholars who showed great gains in learning English & scored high in their district assessment!
Beech Avenue Elementary: Way to go Beech Students who read over 2,671 books in September!

Canyon Crest Elementary: Thank you office secretary Mrs. Henson & attendance clerk Mrs. Gurslin who go above & beyond every day to make sure our students are safe & cared for.

Chaparral Academy of Technology: We are excited to welcome parents to our brand-new Parent Library on Wednesday, October 20th (12:30-2pm)! We have curated a selection of books and materials for parents to check out for home use. These include books about fun activities, social-emotional learning, and academic interventions.

Citrus Elementary: Celebrating new teachers Mrs. Pitcher, Ms. Kole and Ms. Flores! We are very happy to have you on the team!

Cypress Elementary: Congratulations to our new principal, Lorena Michel! Mrs. Michel previously served as our assistant principal since 2016.

Date Elementary: We received a platinum PBIS Implementation Award from the California PBIS Coalition for our work in creating a positive school environment!

Dolores Huerta International Academy: We celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month with our school spirit day of dressing up in Latin American cultures.

Dorothy Grant Innovations Academy: Ms. Owens and Mr. Whyte got their long-awaited "slimming" by top earners in the Jump for Heart Fundraiser that took place right before the pandemic.

Hemlock Elementary: We welcome our new principal, Mr. Adam Andersen, to the Hemlock family!

Juniper Elementary: We have been recognized with a gold PBIS Implementation Award from the California PBIS Coalition! Way to go, Juniper Jaguars!



Kathy Binks Elementary: Our students read over 1,258 books in September! Great job, Koalas!

Live Oak Elementary: We have received a bronze PBIS Implementation Award – congratulations, Bobcats!

Locust Elementary: Welcome to our newest Lion, Miss Taylor! She will be teaching 3rd grade.

Mango Elementary: We have been honored with a bronze PBIS Implementation Award from the California PBIS Coalition!

Maple Elementary: Shout out to our students, teachers, and staff for earning a silver PBIS Implementation Award! Way to go, Mustangs!

North Tamarind Elementary: We are focusing on the Leader in Me process, check out our great new murals around our school that inspire our students!

Oak Park Elementary: Shout out to all of our Back to School In-Person Kids Art & Writing Contest winners! We are as happy to be back as you are!



Oleander Elementary: Congrats to Julie Hansberger on being promoted to principal! Mrs. Hansberger has served as our assistant principal for the last seven years.

Palmetto Elementary: Congratulations to our September Student of the Month & thank you to all of the Tigers who participated in Hispanic Heritage Month!

Poplar Elementary: We have received a silver PBIS Implementation Award from the California PBIS Coalition!

Randall Pepper Elementary: We have been honored with a gold PBIS Implementation Award for fostering a positive campus culture!



Redwood Elementary: Redwood PTA's record-breaking membership, with 111 members. We appreciate our parent involvement in making this a great school!

Shadow Hills Elementary: Our Hawksome Site Aides Ms. Alicia, Ms. Elizabeth, Ms. Erika, Ms. Jackie, Ms. Miriam, and Ms. Lulu have been doing an outstanding job in keeping our students safe, orderly, and happy!

Sierra Lakes Elementary: Huge thanks to our librarian, Ayrel Evans, FUSD librarians & technology department who supported Sierra Lakes with the distribution of our new student laptops.

South Tamarind Elementary: Shout out to our kindergarten Stars for working hard on STEM Wednesday to ensure Humpty Dumpty doesn't break!

Ted J. Porter Elementary: Shout out to our 5th grade students, who have been working hard to research life aboard the ISS. They even got to meet Astronaut Vic Glover!

Tokay Elementary: Our 2021-2022 Student Council Board Members did a magnificent job with their speeches & posters. Congrats to Sapina – President, Bianca – Vice President, Aubrey – Secretary, Nicholas – Treasurer, Daniela – Public Relations and Melanie – Historian!

Virginia Primrose Elementary: We have been recognized with a silver PBIS award from the California PBIS Coalition!

West Randall Elementary: We received a gold PBIS Implementation Award for our positive school environment!

VLP: Mrs. Carpenter's VLP 4th Grade class is drawing their way through the alphabet virtually! Each week, they focus on different aspects of art, such as warm and cool colors and drawing basic shapes.

Alder Middle School: We have earned a platinum PBIS Implementation Award from the California PBIS Coalition, recognizing our efforts to create a positive campus culture!

Almeria Middle School: Shout out to our outstanding Science Club! These scholars meet on Saturdays and conduct awesome experiments.

Fontana Middle School: We have been honored with a silver PBIS Implementation Award, celebrating our success in fostering a positive learning environment!

Harry S. Truman Middle School: Shout out to September Timberwolves of the Month Santiago H, Linda H, and Jose A., as well as Staff Members of the Month Mrs. Morgan and Mr. Negrete!

Sequoia Middle School: Sequoia Renaissance received a "Renny Award" from Jostens, recognizing students and staff for their work in creating a positive climate and school culture!

Wayne Ruble Middle School: Mrs. Zahra and our STEAM students recently participated in Amazon's Cyber Robotics Challenge!

A.B. Miller High School: A. B. Miller TV is back! This morning news show is produced by our TV Production students to Inform, Uplift and Entertain.

Fontana High School: Shout out to our Folklorico dancers who participated in the Fontana Hispanic Heritage Celebration, La Gran Fiesta.

Henry J. Kaiser High School: Kaiser HS JROTC recently competed in the Raider's Competition at Murrieta Valley!

Jurupa Hills High School: Live theater is returning to Jurupa Hills with our production of "Little Women!" Come out to Support our student artists and watch.

Summit High School: Shout out to the Skyhawks students, staff, and parents for being named a 2021 California Distinguished School!

Eric Birch High School: Congratulations to our Birch softball team and Coach Trice for winning their first game of the year against Citrus High!

Citrus High School: Shout out to Citrus High students for having best attendance in FUSD with 99.13% in positive attendance, and to the top 3 students who have improved their attendance the most since school started!

Fontana Adult School: Shout out to Counselor Callanta for providing growth mindset workshops, coordinating with student volunteers and conducting drop-in employment skills workshops!



Fontana Unified Students Receive Free Bus Rides from Omnitrans

Fontana Unified students can enjoy free public transportation and ride anywhere on Omnitrans' 29 bus routes, thanks to the Free Fares for School (FFFS) program! From now through Feb. 6, 2022, students can ride Omnitrans buses for free with the FFFS decal on the back of their student ID cards. For more information on the FFFS program or to learn which bus routes serve your campus, visit the Omnitrans website.



October 2021

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE



We are in exciting times as our students return to schools, participate in activities, and, for some, participate in new learning environments. Providing a safe learning environment for our students, employees, and community remains at the forefront of our efforts. It is exciting to see students in our classrooms hungry to connect and learn. Over 95% of our students have returned for in-person learning. Engaging activities are available with creative approaches to connecting with safety in mind. New and continued testing stations are active and now available to employees and students across the District with registration at testfontana.com. News continues to develop at the State level, with developments that could impact students State-wide in the future. The first day of October brought a morning news conference from Governor Gavin Newsom, laying the groundwork to add the COVID vaccine to the list of vaccines required by the State of California and announcing a phased-in approach for implementing a requirement of vaccinations for K-12 students. At this time, the State of California does not require COVID vaccinations for students. The Governor's announcement laid out a timeline beginning when federal officials grant full approval for doses to younger age groups. Newsom said the first phase of the mandate calls for COVID vaccinations for public and private school students in grades seven through 12 who attend school in person at the start of a new semester. Governor Newsom noted that the phased approach would allow for the time needed by the State and school districts to plan for implementation. The requirement will not become effective until the U.S. Food and Drug Administration lifts its emergency use authorization and issues full and final approval to vaccines for children 12 to 15. Newsom noted that California schoolchildren are already required to present proof of 10 vaccinations before attending school in person, including polio, measles, mumps, rubella, and chickenpox. COVID would be the 11th. Local school districts are responsible for implementing school safety plans with input from their stakeholders. Plans must meet or exceed the California Department of Public Health standards and guidance spelled out in the Governor's executive orders. For now, face coverings must be worn by all students and staff while they're indoors at school, and, effective October 15, staff members will have to show proof of vaccination against COVID-19 or get tested weekly. The State has also issued quarantine guidance that varies based on vaccination status and whether one or both parties is wearing a mask. The Fontana Unified School District will continue to work closely with the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health in implementing safety practices designed to keep our students, employees, and community safe. For more information on possible timelines and requirements regarding this mandate, please view the Superintendent's message on our website www.fusd.net.

Randal S. Bassett
Superintendent

Save the Date

- Wednesday, Oct. 6
Board of Education Meeting
6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Oct. 19
Parent University: REACH
OUT Youth Trends & Social
Media
6 to 8 p.m.
Meeting online
- Wednesday, Oct. 20
Board of Education Meeting
6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, Nov. 3
Board of Education Meeting
6:30 p.m.

August Board of Education Meeting Highlights

- Aug. 11, 2021
 - Superintendent Bassett reported the successes and challenges faced by the District as schools fully reopened for in-person instruction and thanked all the District and school employees for their hard work and adaptability. Mr. Bassett also informed the Board that the District continues to receive interest from students and families who are interested in our online programs – ACCESS and VLP – and asked that parents remain patient as those teams work diligently to get students enrolled in the programs. Additionally, he acknowledged that there have been legislative shifts regarding school reopening, including updates in public health orders. Mr. Bassett also confirmed that on Aug. 11, Gov. Newsom issued an order that all school employees must either be vaccinated or must participate in weekly COVID-19 testing. Full compliance with this order is required by Oct. 15, 2021. An update on the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) was given, which reported that the office of the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools has been reviewing all plans and has provided feedback to FUSD for adjustments and simplification. Updates will be brought back to the Board at the Sept. 8 meeting.
- Aug. 25, 2021
 - Superintendent Bassett confirmed there are many positions open within FUSD and the District is working hard to fill those positions. He also shared that the District is continuing to adjust and update its Safety Protocols with the Department of Public Health, working hard to keep students safe, and will increase COVID-19 testing to support District need and new legal requirements.
 - The Board was presented with a facilities finance measure survey, which provided an estimation of community support for a bond measure to fund capital improvements at various school sites. Initial findings show that it is likely that a measure would pass. Additional information will be provided in subsequent meetings for the Board's consideration. The Board approved an agreement for COVID-19 testing from Aug. 30, 2021 to Dec. 31, 2021, with the option to extend. The agreement will provide PCR tests with 24 to 72-hour results to staff and to students exposed to COVID-19; these tests are accepted by the state for non-vaccinated employees. Information about the ACCESS program was presented to the board, including current and future staffing. Additional discussion with the Board addressed alternative options for students, need for additional space in the program, the amount of work to manage program and staffing needs for teachers and management of the program.
 - Associate Superintendent Mr. Bremgartner presented information on the District's COVID-19 safety protocols. The presentation included current COVID-19 safety requirements from the Department of Public Health, as well as the District's preventative measures, mitigation procedures, communication/notifications and reporting of cases. Per the Board's request, additional information will continue to be added to the FAQ page found on www.fusd.net/coronavirus.



Around Campus: Elementary Schools

South Tamarind Elementary Cultivates Hands-On Learning Through STEM Wednesdays



South Tamarind Elementary School is encouraging creativity and critical thinking through STEM Wednesdays, hands-on activities that empowers students to expand upon what they have learned in the classroom.

The weekly activities, bolstered by the school's partnership with the digital learning platform Discovery Education, implement the four C's of STEM: communication, collaboration, critical thinking and creativity.

STEM Wednesdays feature 90-minute activities that vary by grade level. South Tamarind's kindergarten students recently participated in "Saving Humpty Dumpty", during which they thought of ways to ensure an egg did not break when dropped. Meanwhile, fifth-graders created eco-friendly versions of everyday items, such as a flower pot made from a recycled water bottle.

By integrating STEM values into daily lessons in the future, South Tamarind Elementary hopes to provide students with a more immersive learning experience.

"STEM Wednesdays have helped boost school morale and are getting our students even more excited about what they're learning," South Tamarind Principal Dr. Rita Bayne said. "We're thrilled with the response from students and grateful for our partnership with Discovery Education, which will provide us with more opportunities to incorporate STEM throughout our core curriculum."

Around Campus: Middle Schools

Wayne Ruble Middle School Strengthens Pathways to High School, Boosts STEAM Instruction

Through a robust science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM) program, Wayne Ruble Middle School is preparing students for the rigors of high school, college and the workforce – while also helping them develop valuable life skills.

Students cycle through a variety of courses in their three years at Ruble – beginning with coding, where they use Minecraft Education MakeCode and Scratch and write code with Javascript and Python. Students then advance to robotics, where they apply their coding skills using Micro:Bits, Lego EV3, Circuit Playground and Coderz.

Students also design and print 3D objects with Tinkercad, learn composite digital arts and edit photos with Photoshop, create 2D multimedia stories and animations in Adobe Animate, and develop personal websites using HTML and CSS.

During their final year of STEAM at understanding of current and future artificial intelligence, big data and data augmented, virtual and mixed reality), and synthetic biology, nanotechnology, security.

Ruble educators continue to seek build the STEAM program; recently, teacher Zahra Razi applied for her Amazon Future Engineer Program and Cyber Robotics Challenge.



Ruble, students gain a better technology trends such as science, extended reality (such as bioprinting, genetic engineering quantum computing, and cyber

ways to enhance instruction and seventh/eighth grade STEAM classes to participate in the engaged students in Amazon's

Through this challenge, students discovered how Amazon uses computer science and robotics daily to deliver customer goods, providing real-life context for the skills they are learning.

The program also features a unit on life skills and professionalism, in which students practice and discuss self-discipline and emotional intelligence, discover how such practices are interwoven into the job market, and learn to apply the problem-solving cycle to everyday situations.

Around Campus: High Schools

Live Theater Returns to Jurupa Hills High School With 'Little Women'

Jurupa Hills High School's theater program will perform a heartfelt adaptation of Louisa May Alcott's "Little Women," the school's first live production since the COVID-19 pandemic.

The fall production marks a return to live performance that has been long-awaited by students and by Drama/IB Theater Teacher James Griffin.

"The kids need this. The community needs this. Almost 100 students showed up to audition because there was such a need for them to get involved," Griffin said. "Figuring out how to bring our program back safely has been a great project for us. Like the characters in 'Little Women,' we are coming together to overcome challenges through family and love."

The production will showcase not only students' acting talents, but also the skills developed in Jurupa Hills' technical theater courses. For every fall production, students design and build sets, direct light and sound, create costumes, and even construct their own wigs.

"Little Women" will premiere Nov. 12 and run intermittently through Nov. 20; tickets are available at www.jhills.tix.com. Performances will feature COVID-19 protocols that include masked and distanced audiences, reserved seating, and rapid antigen tests for performers.

Jurupa Hills High School offers career technical education (CTE) courses in sectors such as the arts, media and entertainment, helping students jumpstart their journey to college and career and facilitating a global connection. CTE pathways include acting, dance and production and managerial arts, which provide hands-on learning, foster creativity and set the stage for professional success.



Did You Know: Fontana Unified School District officially came to be as a unified district in 1956 after Fontana schools had been a part of the Chaffey Joint Union High School District.

County Group Votes 13-0 For Unification
 FONTANA - The County Committee on School District Organization, with Robert H. Greer Jr. of Yermo, chairman presiding, voted Monday night in a less than 10-minute session at the Fontana High School Auditorium to support the State Board of Education in approving setting up a unified school district for Fontana. Checkbook for the action was taken at several previous meetings.
 San Bernardino Sun, June 21, 1956

District News

21 Fontana Unified Schools Honored by California PBIS Coalition

Twenty-one Fontana Unified schools have earned platinum, gold, silver and bronze awards from California Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Coalition, recognizing their efforts to create a positive campus culture and increase student engagement.



Citrus, Cypress and Date elementary schools, Dolores Huerta International Academy, and Alder, Harry S. Truman and Sequoia middle schools have earned platinum certifications for their stellar execution of PBIS strategies in 2020-21.

They are joined by gold PBIS Implementation Award recipients Juniper, Oleander, Randall Pepper and West Randall elementary schools, Southridge Tech Middle School and Jurupa Hills High School; silver PBIS Implementation Award recipients Maple, Poplar, Sierra Lakes and Virginia Primrose elementary schools, as well as Almeria and Fontana middle schools; and bronze PBIS Implementation Award recipients Live Oak Elementary and Mango Elementary.

PBIS aims to create a positive school setting through strategies that define, teach and support appropriate student behaviors. Aided by the framework and FUSD's Climate and Culture Specialists, educators closely monitor students' behavior, attendance and academic performance, taking steps to provide additional support in each area as needed.

All 21 schools were recognized at the annual California PBIS Coalition Conference in mid-September.