PUSD PAGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



Monthly Newsletter September 2025

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Vision

A community of learners who direct our collective actions and resources toward the unique learning needs of every child in order for all students to become college and career ready and successful in a global society.

Motto

Collectively Committed to Every Student, Every Day, Every Minute.



Mission

Our schools are passionate about the learning-for-all mission and understand that every student matters. We are responsible and accountable for the education of every student that walks through our doors every day.

Looking for a Reaction

Page High School chemistry teacher, Julianne Hatt, arranged a row of beakers on a table at the front of the class. Each beaker contained a few milliliters of sodium hydroxide or other chemical. Mrs. Hatt donned her lab coat and safety glasses and asked her students for their attention, then she poured a beaker of hydrochloric acid into a beaker of sodium hydroxide and phenol phthalein. The solution in the beaker turned red and there are a few oohs and ahs from the students.

Mrs. Hatt then turns to the class. "Red, as in, have you read the assignment? Red as in, have you read the instructions?"

There are nods from the students. Okay. I see what's going on.

"One of the best ways to be successful in this class is to read the assignments and read the instructions," Mrs. Hatt further emphasized.

Mrs. Hatt next poured hydrochloric acid into a beaker of phenol phthalein and paranitrol phenol which created an orange solution. To which, Mrs. Hatt adds, "Orange you glad you came to class today?", which solicited a few laughs, and a few groans.

Prior to launching into the demonstration, Mrs. Hatt warned her class it might get a little punny at times.

One by one, Hatt combined chemical solutions to create different colors in the beakers and with each one she explained its significance to her expectations. Hydrochloric acid and a full part of para-nitrophenol and sodium hydroxide made yellow. Then she made green, blue and purple.

"Yellow is to remind us of courage," Hatt told her class. "Be courageous. Ask questions."

"Green is to remind us to get up and go. Go to class. Do your homework. Don't be a procrastinator."

Blue stands for blew. "It's to remind you that if you blew a test you need to come back into the classroom and figure out why you missed the question," said Mrs. Hatt. "In chemistry, each lesson builds on the previous lesson and scaffolds up. If you get lost, don't stay lost. Don't blow it."

Purple stands for royalty. "Purple should remind us that we're all kings and queens, and we should treat each other like such," Mrs. Hatt told her class.

It was a simple but effective demonstration and a fun way for Mrs. Hatt to break the ice with her students while also laying out the classroom rules and the expectations for the year ahead.

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Page Elementary Rolls Out Dust Devil Way









For sixth graders Jason Manygoats and Martina Resvaloso, attending school at Page Elementary is partly familiar, partly new.

Both students went to school there from Kindergarten to second grade – back when it was Lake View Primary – so the hallways, the lunch room and the playgrounds are all familiar. And many of the faces are familiar too. Mary Stahl, who was their principal at Desert View the last three years, is their principal again this year under the new district configuration. And when they walk the halls, they will see many of their former Desert View teachers, who are now Page Elementary teachers.

What has changed for them is their daily schedule. Now that they're sixth graders, they no longer have a single teacher and a single classroom like they did grades K through 5. In sixth grade they now follow a middle school schedule. They have seven periods and seven different teachers and throughout the day they move to seven different classrooms. They have math, ELA, Reading for Success, Empowerment Lab, Science, Social Studies and Specials. They rotate through six different Specials classes.

With last year's fifth graders joining Page Elementary as this year's sixth graders, Principal Stahl saw an important leadership opportunity for them. At the beginning of every school year, Ms. Stahl and assistant principal Wendy Gilbert, lead the students through The Dust Devil Way Rollout. The Dust Devil Way Rollout includes a tour of the school's lunch room, bathrooms, playgrounds, office and bus ramp. As part of the orientation, the students also receive a review of school rules and behavioral expectations.

"We are showing them how to be kind, be brave and work hard in all aspects of the school day," said Ms. Gilbert.

With sixth graders in the school, Ms. Stahl and Gilbert saw a great leadership opportunity for the sixth graders, and a great learning opportunity for the younger grades.

"They did an amazing job for us last year as our example-setters," said Ms. Gilbert. "They were an awesome group of fifth graders, so we were really excited to have them again this year as sixth graders. Their teachers are letting us know that they are living up to the expectations.

"As we're going through the roll out, we emphasize to the younger students to look to the sixth graders as their role models."

Jason Manygoats is enjoying being back at Page Elementary. "I have a lot of great memories from being here the first time," he said. "It's fun to be back as one of the leaders."

Devil Days Promotes Student Athlete Wellness









Three weeks into the new school year and the practice fields, the volleyball court, the golf course and the running paths are buzzing with eager athletes preparing for the fall athletic season.

During a long season, the practices, the long drives to away games and staying caught up on homework and grades can bring extra stress into a student athlete's life. So, before jumping headfirst into all that, PUSD athletic director Megan Moore set aside a day when she and other district experts could address some of the challenges the athletes face during the season.

The event, called Devil Days, was held for both Page High School and Page Middle School athletes. The athletes visited four wellness stations. At the first station, held in the CAB, Ms. Moore talked about her expectations regarding the athlete's grades, and behavior on and off the court/field, reminding them that they are acting as ambassadors for the school.

In the second station, Braedyn Bennett, PUSD's athletic trainer, talked about ways the athletes can take care of their bodies. She particularly emphasized proper hydration, and sleep.

Ian Klay, Food Services Director for Chartwells, talked how to fuel their bodies with proper nutrition.

In the fourth station, Shelby Jensen, Page High School guidance counselor, talked about tools to maintain good mental health.

"There hasn't been a huge concern with any one of these topics but it's a way we can help them be better humans, and make sure that they are okay," said Ms. Moore. "We see them pushing themselves as hard as they can physically and emotionally and we just want to make sure they have the capacity to do that."

This was the first year Ms. Moore organized Devils Days, and she was happy to see it was a big success. It's something she plans to do at the beginning of every school year from now on.

3A North Student Athletes Do Service in Thailand





Traidyn Sutherland, Kemper Sutherland, Sequoia Dickson and Yasmine Short were among 12 students who spent 12 days doing a service project in Thailand last summer. The students were accompanied by four adult chaperones.

"It was really fun," said Traidyn Sutherland. She plays varsity on the girls football, softball and soccer teams. "It was really cool to see the different parts and types of Thailand. We were in the city for a few days, then went into the countryside for a while. That was really cool. I thought it was really pretty."

Thailand was the opposite of Page in many ways. While both countries are hot, Thailand is humid with lush flowers, vegetation and forests. Sutherland said she really appreciated the difference.

The trip was arranged through EF Tours, a tourism company that caters to students and educators with experiences designed around cultural exchange, educational opportunities and immersive activities. Each student was responsible for raising their own money to pay for the trip.

This particular trip was organized by Megan Moore, PUSD's Athletic Director, and was open to any student athlete in the 3A North region. Each school invited members of its student athlete leadership team.

Students from Page High School, Tuba City High School, Alchesay High School and Ganado High School participated in the trip.

The group rendezvoused at the Phoenix airport and from there flew to Taipei, then on to Bangkok. The group spent the first few days in Bangkok, then moved to Chiang Mai, in northern Thailand, where they did their service project. They worked with a company called The Royal Project, which helps Thailand's Hmong people sell their produce and other goods for a fair price. One of the goals of the project is to increase the economic status of the Hmong people.









While in Thailand, the 3A North group learned about composting using elephant manure and vegetable material. They built flower beds and picked peas. They worked at a recycling station recycling plastic into a form of modified concrete that would later be used to construct a school. At a different location, the service group visited an elephant sanctuary where they planted trees, (future food for the elephants), and prepared vitamin balls for the elephants to eat.

The travel trips through EF Tours are popular with Page students. Page High School will be doing a trip to Costa Rica during spring break 2027, and a trip to Iceland in summer 2027. Moore, an avid traveler herself, is one of the biggest proponents of student travel trips for the educational, horizon-broadening opportunities they give students. The kids get develop empathy, see the world from another person's point of view and know how it feels to be part of the solution to some global challenges.

"Our goal is just to get our kids to travel more and see the world," said Ms. Moore. "Travel is my number one passion in life and I think it's so important. Given where we live, we people from all over the world coming to us, and that's great, but traveling to their countries lets us experience their homes and their cultures it gives you a different perspective. Getting to try pad thai in Thailand or cannoli in Italy, getting to make decisions away from your parents, getting pushed out of their comfort zones are all great things.

"I think a lot of kids from here probably thought they'd never leave our area of the world," said Ms. Moore. "A lot of our kids have never been on an airplane before. Travel just changes your world. It shows the kids that there is so much out there and they can do whatever they want to do."

CHEMISTRY from pg. 1



Mrs. Hatt's experiment was a direct metaphor for what she's trying to accomplish with the students in her class room. In the same way Mrs. Hatt combined hydrochloric acid with phenol phthalein and paranitrol phenol to create an orange solution she is attempting a similar reaction between herself and the students.

Mrs. Hatt teaches chemistry and dual-enrollment chemistry with Coconino Community College. This is her eighth year teaching, her fourth year at Page High School. Mrs. Hatt's classes are very popular. A big reason for that is her positive interactions with her students and the clever lessons she brings into her classroom.

Thia is something Mrs. Hatt does with every one of her classes, every year.

"It's a good way to break the ice and a fun to show them a cool, chemistry-related thing, but also remind them that I expect certain things in my class," said Mrs. Hatt.

Mrs. Hatt finished her demonstration by pouring more hydrochloric acid into the colored beakers which returned the colored solution to clear.

"I hope now everything is clear," she says.

As school year 2025-26 gets under way, she is hoping her creative solutions continue to work.

If your student, colleague, club, organization or team is doing something extraordinary and you want the rest of the district and community to know about it, contact PUSD PR Coordinator, Steven Law, and let him know about it so he can do a story about it.

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