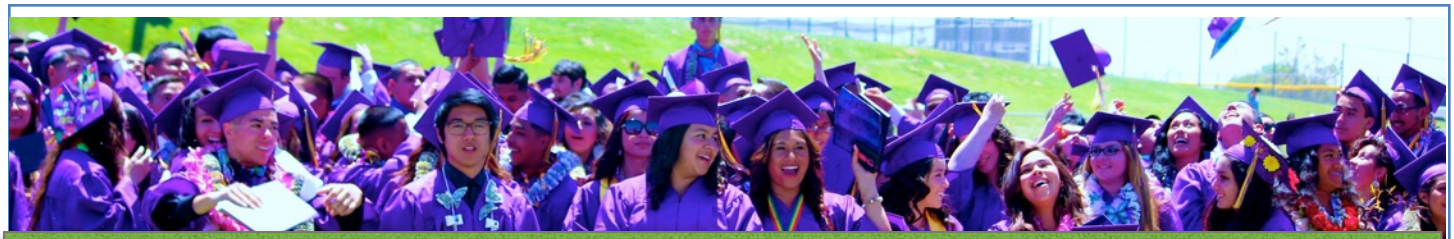
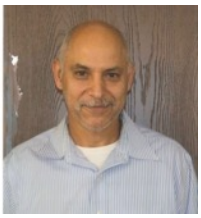


Our goal is to eliminate the opportunity gap while creating every student to be civic and digital citizens who are prepared to be college and career ready.

President	Vice President	Clerk	Trustee	Trustee
				

August 7, 2015

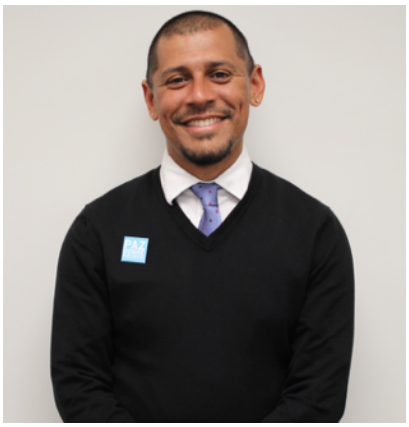
Dear Board of Trustees,
This professional development took place on August 5, 2015 at Pinnacles National Park. Our educational leaders spent time learning, collaborating, and bonding as a team. In addition, they had the opportunity to experience what a field trip would be like for our students and the excitement it brings.

We are super excited to welcome our educators back on Aug 12, 2015 at Soledad High School Multipurpose room. School teams will have time to collaborate, see former colleagues, and meet new ones. MCOE will provide professional development regarding inclusive practices while district staff will review LCAP goals and review SBAC baseline data. Thank you for providing staff lunch on their first day! We hope you can join us to judge the school cheers at lunch.

Jack Franscioni Educator, Ms. Denny, won $25,000 award from Best Buy to purchase supplies to support the school. The Franscioni team came to support Ms. Denny-- awesome spirit/ great teamwork!

Educational Services

Director of Teaching and Learning for Secondary Schools- Antonio Garcia



I'm excited to join the Soledad team! I come to you with 15 years of experience working with youth and schools in Los Angeles and New York. I have served as a Social Worker, a History and Special Education Teacher, an Instructional Coach, an Assistant Principal, and Principal at the Middle School and High School levels. My passion is ensuring all students are supported to be thoughtful, kind, productive, and healthy world citizens.

Director of Teaching & Learning for the Elementary Schools- Dr. Dianne Witwer

I am very happy to be the new Director of Teaching and Learning for the Elementary Schools. I have 4 children and 3 grandchildren. My hobbies include spending time with my family, reading good books, going to the movies, and listening to all types of music.

In my new position, my goals are to support our elementary principals in the areas of curriculum planning, data analysis, Response to Intervention (RTI) , Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS), and English Learner (EL) strategies. I am also looking forward to focusing on writing so that all students are better prepared to answer constructive responses in both ELA and in Math.

This year we will be offering teacher training with our new math adoption materials and will be looking at new ELA materials to pilot and adopt. I feel very honored to be working with such a great team of leaders & educators. This is going to be another great year in the

Special Projects

Denise Estrella, Director

This is my sixteenth year in public education and sixth year in Soledad Unified., having previously served as the Adult School Director, CTE/ROP District Coordinator, and Principal of CEC. Prior to working here, I was a middle school principal, high school assistant principal, a high school teacher, an adapted PE specialist, and a social worker.

Contact Me About:

Migrant Education Program

Foster Youth

Homeless Student Services

After School Program

District English Learners Advisory Committee

Community Collaborative

Intervention

Homeless Services

First 5 Monterey County Playgroup Program

Supplemental Educational Services

Compliance

Tobacco Use Prevention and Education

Career Technical Education/ROP

Contact Information:
(831) 678-3987 x 128
destrella@soledad.k12.ca.us
Twitter: @SUSDSpecialProg

Erin Ramirez, Coordinator

This is my twelfth year in Soledad Unified having previously served as a classroom teacher, EL Resource teacher, Family Student Support Coordinator. I look forward to another great year at Soledad Unified and a new path this year as the Special Projects Coordinator for the district.

As many of you know I am the mother of three wonderful, active children who keep me busy in my role as "mom." Thanks to the support and dedication of my husband and kids I look forward to serving you all this year!

Contact Me About:

English Learner instruction

CELDT Testing

English Learner Master Plan

Family & Student Support Coordinators

Contact Information:
(831) 678-3987 x 119
eramirez@soledad.k12.ca.us
Twitter: @ErinRamSPC

SPECIAL EDUCATION

What Do You Do At The District Office?

We advocate for students with special needs to be taught in the Least Restrictive Environment, in the general education setting as much as possible, by providing services and teaching interventions to give students the best opportunity to be successful. We provide support to parents and staff for all issues related to students with special needs, in the way of practical, and legal guidance to assist children.

What Experience Does The Director Have?

Anthony Miranda, has 23 years of experience working in general education, alternative education, and special education. His expertise as a teacher was working with the most behaviorally challenging students in alternative high schools, and in special education. He started his career in Lompoc CA, went to Los Angeles, to Omaha Nebraska, back to Gilroy CA, and now loves where life has taken him here in Soledad.

What Experience Does The Program Coordinator Have?

Lori Morones, graduated from Hartnell College with an A.A. in General Studies, then graduated from Chapman University with a B.A. in Liberal Studies. Lori has worked at SUSD for 29 years, with 23 years in special education. She started her career as a secretary, then administrative assistant, accountant, and now program coordinator. Lori is dedicated to ensuring equal opportunities and participation for all our special education students.

Business Department

PREPARING FOR AN EXCITING SCHOOL YEAR

The Business Department Team welcomes students, teachers, administrators, and the entire Soledad community to yet another exciting school year. During the last couple of months, our team has been focused on helping other departments prepare for the upcoming 2015-16 school year by promptly processing requisitions to buy instructional materials and supplies, equipment, technology, and has worked very closely with Maintenance, Operations, and Facilities' staff members on many maintenance programs and projects to make our schools even more beautiful.

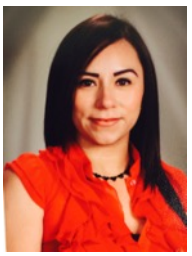
We have many goals for this year, but one of them is to be more involved with our schools by making more site visits and provide more assistance to students, teachers, and administrators to ensure they have the tools, resources, and support that they need throughout the year.

YEAR END CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Please take an hour or so out of your day to check and be sure that ALL of your 2014/2015 requisitions are in the "Complete" status. Please contact the Business Department for any requisitions that are in either the "Ready for Pay" or "Printed" as we will need to know whether to accrue for the items or close the requisitions if all the items have already been received and paid for.

Cesar L. Vega
Chief Business Officer
831-678-3987
cvega@soledad.k12.ca.us

Esteban Rios
Budget Analyst
831-678-3950 x132
elrios@soledad.k12.ca.us



Vanessa Guajardo
Certificated Payroll Clerk
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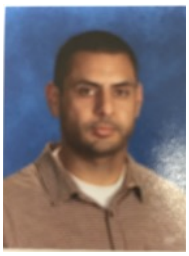
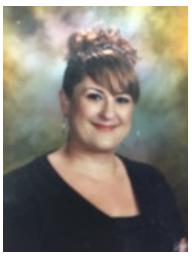
vguajardo@soledad.k12.ca.us



Juan Leyva
District Accountant
831-678-3950 x103
jleyva@soledad.k12.ca.us

Marina Mendoza
Accounts Payable
831-678-3950 x144
mmendoza@soledad.k12.ca.us



Melissa Silva
Classified Payroll Clerk
831-678-3950 x104
msliva@soledad.k12.ca.us

Human Capital

Lisa Kleinhofer - Asst. Superintendent - SS & HC /

lkleinhofer@soledad.k12.ca.us

It is a privilege to begin my second year with the Soledad Unified School District. Our team is committed to attracting and retaining the best personnel to inspire, motivate, and guide our youth to realize their dreams. We value each and every one of our employees

Nancy Terrones - Health & Welfare Specialist / nterrones@soledad.k12.ca.us

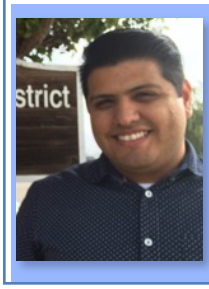
I am new to the Soledad Unified School District and have experience in public school settings maintaining health and welfare benefits. I am ready to assist all employees with questions and concerns regarding health and welfare benefits, retirement, life insurance benefits, FMLA leaves, and address changes.

Letty Diaz - Director of Classified Personnel and WC / ldiaz@soledad.k12.ca.us

Being born and raised in the community makes me feel grateful to contribute to an amazing HR Team! Having the privilege to work with the district for the past 13 years has been rewarding. I am here to assist staff in the areas pertaining to personnel, provide answers regarding positions, hiring procedures, and Workers' Compensation. Outside my profession, I am a mom of two beautiful kids that are part of the school district in Soledad and I enjoy spending time with family and loved ones!

Maria Villalobos - Secretary I / mvillalobos@soledad.k12.ca.us

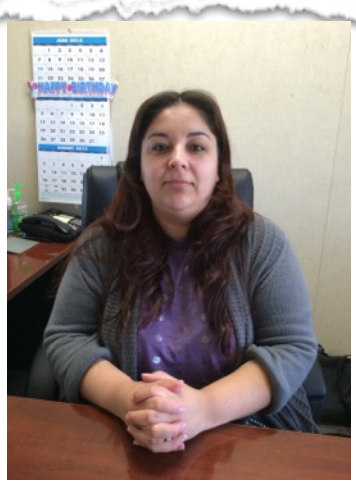
I've been with Soledad Unified School District for 7 years and support the district as the point contact for all HR questions. I have knowledge with both certificated and classified staff and am a resource to the community and employees. You may contact me with questions or concerns regarding human resources.



Eli Ruelas - Human Capital Specialist / eruelas@soledad.k12.ca.us

I've been on board with the Soledad Unified School District since May 2015 and will continue my commitment to serving the needs of this district as a Human Capital Specialist. You can contact me for questions concerning certificated credentialing or any other HR related inquiries.

Technology



Meet the New Tech Director

Annette Trujillo has stepped into Director role for Soledad's Technology Department. Annette grew up in Greenfield and after graduating Valedictorian from Greenfield High school went on to get a B.A. in Computer Science from UC Berkeley. She has been providing Tech support for over 10 years and almost a year ago was hired as Computer Tech for Soledad Unified. Annette is committed to providing support for our district's technology needs and for successful technology integration in the classroom. Annette is excited to help lead the way for Ed Tech here at Soledad Unified!

Data Team

Marta has been our **CALPADS/SIS Specialist** for about 3 years and has been with the district for almost 10 years. She enjoys helping others with Aeries.

Vickie is our **District Attendance Supervisor** and has been with the district 41 years. She can help registration, attendance, and more.

Tech Team

Mobile Device Administrator

I have over 7 years experience in information systems tech support. My current focus is scalable mobile device management systems and ecosystems. I have been providing excellent tech support for SUSD since 2013 and enjoy playing video games.

Systems Administrator

I have been working at this district for 10 years. I started off with basic troubleshooting duties like swapping out power supplies on old tangents to now administering servers and databases. I am continually finding the best practices for administering equipment, profiles, and resources.

Network Administrator

I've worked in education as part of the IT department for about 8 years at several school districts. I was born and raised in the area and I am very happy to still be here helping staff and students to connect safely and securely in order achieve their professional and educational goals.

MOTF

Facilities

It has been a very busy summer for the Maintenance, Operations, Transportation, and Facilities Department. All summer routine business was completed such as cleaning classrooms, maintaining grounds, maintaining lights, and surviving California Highway Patrols transportation inspection. Facilities was also in high gear. The list of accomplishments is substantial. A few notable ones:

- Marquee installation at Frank Ledesma and Jack Franscioni.
- A new driveway at San Vicente School to help with traffic flow at Metz Road.
- Three new portables at Soledad High School.
- Office remodel / reconfiguration at Main Street Middle's administration office.
- Completed office installation at Gabilan School's new administration portable, which added square footage.

Our new Director of Maintenance, Operations and Transportation, Horacio Pantoja, is driving the extended forklift. Alfredo Valdez, our new electrician, is locking Jack Franscioni's new marquee in place.

Soledad High School continues to grow. Pictured are two new portables just set on foundation piers. In total the high school will grow by three classrooms.

The new drive approach at San Vicente School is located by the new marquee sign. This drive approach will be for exit only and drivers will only be allowed to turn left. This will provide better traffic flow.