



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



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August 14, 2015

Dear Board of Trustees,

We officailly welcomed our staff back this Wednesday to launch our academic year.

Every enjoyed the Board of Trustees sponsored BBQ luncheon. Thank you very much we appreciate it.

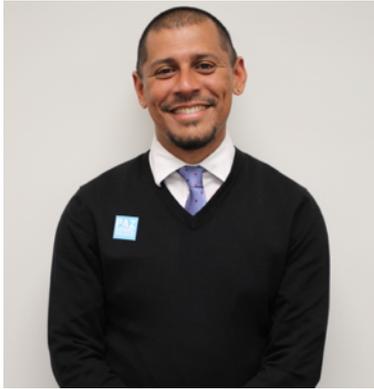
We also took this opportunity to recognize 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 years of service employees with a certificate and a pin.

Staff received professional development in inclusive practices from the MCOE SELPA, our principals met with their teachers and they presented on our LCAP and the SBAC preliminary data.

We look forward to our first instructional day with students on Monday. Our district team will be at the sites greeting our students and supporting our principals.



# Educational Services



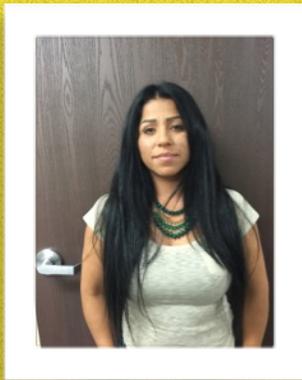
**Directors of Teaching and Learning**  
**Antonio Garcia and Dianne Witwer**

We are immensely impressed by everyone's enthusiasm for the start of the school year and for your commitment to our kids.

The 2015-2016 Kick Off Celebration was a huge success! Please enjoy some photos from this week. Here's a to a great a start! Go Team Soledad!



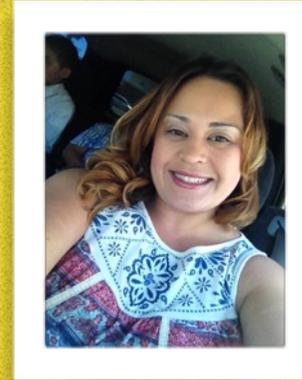
# Special Projects



## **Teresa Chavez, Migrant Statistical Clerk and Special Projects Support**

Teresa's main responsibilities are recruiting and supporting families who qualify for the Migrant Education Program. She also completes reports to meet regional and federal program requirements and coordinates the District English Learners Advisory Committee.

**Contact Information:**  
(831) 678-3987 x 141  
tchavez@soledad.k12.ca.us

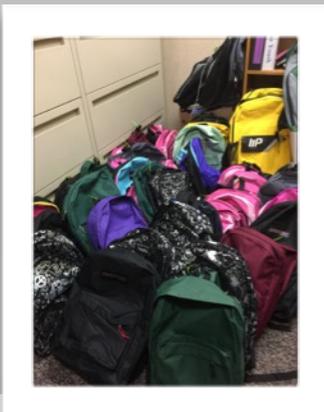


## **Aidee Aldaco, Intervention Program Coordinator**

Aidee Aldaco coordinates family outreach and community services district wide. He works closely with school site support staff by being the liaison between school and outside agencies and representing Soledad Unified at community meetings throughout Monterey County. She also organizes community events that serve students and families in the district. Aidee works very closely with Soledad High to bring agency services from YWCA, Child Abuse Prevention Council, Monterey County Health Department., Planned Parenthood Mar Monte & many more! This year will feature new parent workshops such as Strengthening Families, 5 Steps to Preventing Diabetes, E-Cigarette Awareness, Not In Our School & much more!

**Contact Information:**  
(831) 678-6400  
aaldaco@soledad.k12.ca.us

## ***Stuff the Bus***



Thanks to the United Way and Monterey County Office of Education *Stuff the Bus* campaign, 51 needy students have received free backpacks and school supplies!

# SPECIAL EDUCATION

## What Are Inclusive Practices?

Inclusive Practices are efforts to ensure students with disabilities attend school with their peers, while also receiving supports and services they need, to achieve high standards and succeed as learners.

## What Inclusive Practices Is Not

Inclusive Practices is not "mainstreaming" which puts children in the general education setting for short periods of time. "Mainstreaming" prevents students from becoming full members of the classroom community.

## DISTRICT HIGHLIGHT

Liz Aguirre, is the secretary for for the Special Education Program at the district office. Liz is a critical to communication between the district office and all the school sites, to make sure students with special needs receive the services they need.



# 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.

## ESCAPE ACCESS

We are currently working on giving access for new users in Escape. If you are a secretary or Principal and have not been set up, please contact the Business Office in order to be granted access to Escape.

## 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.

## Soledad High School ASB



Please help support our High School athletics program by attending our sporting events. Proceeds from gate fees help pay for League Fees and Referee Fees. Your support is greatly appreciated.



## WELCOME DAISY ALCALA

The Business Department would like to welcome Daisy Alcala as the newest member of their team! Daisy will be working as an Accounts Payable Clerk. Prior to joining the Business Department, Daisy served as a Secretary I at San Vicente Elementary School.

# Human Capital



## ***Welcome Back to our Staff!***

Today we surprised all of our employees with a visit from the Ice Cream Truck! We value your dedication to our students and look forward to learning about all of the lives you inspire this year. We thank you!



## ***Welcome to the Family*** by Julia Turner

A new year! New privileges! A new cohort of teachers! Dare we envision our students as the next generation of professionals?

Throughout the New Teachers' Orientation (NTO), we pursued this dare understanding that feeling welcomed tenders comfort and freedom for inhaling new vistas and courage for exhaling risk-taking. Thus, we welcomed our new teachers by, including but not limited to, an original a cappella "We Welcome You" solo, catered delicious breakfasts and lunches, "Welcome Goodie Bags" prepared personally by their principals, stimulating seminars facilitated by SUSD administrators, an enlightening bus-tour of Soledad narrated by a Soledad-native. Additionally, due to district's friendship with Bridget Eyraud our regional Office Depot® (OD) representative, teachers received welcome not only enjoying Monday's breakfast provided by Bridget and OD but also received from them a gift-bag filled with teacher-supplies.

To promote welcome and comfort amongst teachers, we engaged them in plenteous communicative tasks relative to SUSD protocols. In short order, the room swelled with the vitality of communication, the verve of collaboration, the vicissitudes of critical thinking, the valor of creativity, the veracity of citizenship. Ask Kevin Peña, Torbjorn Isaakson, Cynthia Elizondo, and/or Serena Watton to sing their "Engagement, Engagement." Ask Grant Thomas or Jesus Fernandez to limn the criticality of a dynamic learning environment. Ask Jeremy Hoeflinger or Kelly Stading to elucidate how mathematical symbols relate to the 5-Cs of college and career readiness. Inquire of Jairo Lopez or Cynthia Reyes about their ARGUMENT acrostic poem.

Culminating learning via a synthesis task, individually and randomly, all forty-nine teachers stood and declared their impassioned commitments to teaching and to students. Powerfully intimate it was! Board of Trustee member Mrs. Massa, imbibing this event, was moved by their commitments. She whispered, "This was absolutely beautiful! ... I am excited for this year! ... Our students are in good hands! ... Thank you."

Mrs. Massa, I concur. Will they dare for our students' sakes? Absolutely, yes!



# Technology



## 9th Grade iPad Deployment

9th Graders received their iPads this past week. They were very excited and eager to start using them in the classroom. We will have tech support during lunch sessions once school begins to help those students who still need help with up their iPad.

## New Teacher Devices

Most new teachers should have their laptop and iPads. We have held several training sessions where staff can learn more on how to effectively use the devices, and how to login to their accounts, such as Aeries and Illuminate. If you are a new teacher and have not yet received your devices, you will have to set up an appointment. Please call the Technology department at 831-678-3987 to schedule an appointment.



## Classroom Technology

The Tech Team will be working hard to touch base with each teacher to make sure your classroom technology needs are being met. We will work hard to reach everyone as fast as possible. If something is not working, please let us know by submitting a helpdesk request. Please include your room# and a description of the problem you are having.

If you need help, please email your school's helpdesk:

[tech-help-mainst@soledad.k12.ca.us](mailto:tech-help-mainst@soledad.k12.ca.us)  
[tech-help-shs@soledad.k12.ca.us](mailto:tech-help-shs@soledad.k12.ca.us)  
[tech-help-gab@soledad.k12.ca.us](mailto:tech-help-gab@soledad.k12.ca.us)  
[tech-help-sv@soledad.k12.ca.us](mailto:tech-help-sv@soledad.k12.ca.us)  
[tech-help-jf@soledad.k12.ca.us](mailto:tech-help-jf@soledad.k12.ca.us)  
[tech-help-rf@soledad.k12.ca.us](mailto:tech-help-rf@soledad.k12.ca.us)  
[tech-help-fl@soledad.k12.ca.us](mailto:tech-help-fl@soledad.k12.ca.us)  
[tech-help-cec@soledad.k12.ca.us](mailto:tech-help-cec@soledad.k12.ca.us)

Main St  
Soledad High  
Gabilan  
San Vicente  
Jack Francioni  
Rose Ferrero  
Frank Ledesma  
CEC

# MOTF Operations



Soledad Unified School District is loosing one of its classified team member. Carlos Fuentes has accepted a similar day position in King City. MOTF staff gathered for a kickoff to the upcoming school year. During this time MOTF staff expressed their farewell to Carlos. In turn Carlos explained how tough of a decision it was to accept the position King City Union School District had offered. He expressed his thanks to SUSD for the opportunity to make friends and help to support our educational institute. Carlos was well liked by all of his fellow colleagues, high school staff and teachers. Thank you for 9 exceptional years of service Carlos. Good Luck! You will be missed.



Our MOTF staff will be displaying their new uniforms on the first day of school. Pictured are Lucio Garcia and George Malagon displaying their new uniforms. New uniforms is an added recognition and safety feature.

