



Soledad USD Superintendent's Weekly Report to the Board of Trustees



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

Dear Trustees,

February 19, 2016

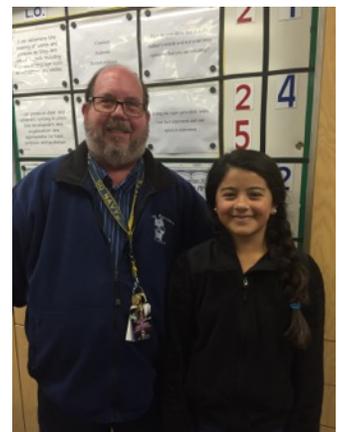
Congratulations to Soledad Athletes! The Lady Aztecs won their first MTAL Soccer Championship on Friday, February 12, 2016 and you can read about it in the Californian <https://t.co/ZcLz6d2DTG>. This is also history making since this is the first championship title won for our Lady



Aztecs since Soledad High School opened in 1999. Soledad HS Wrestlers

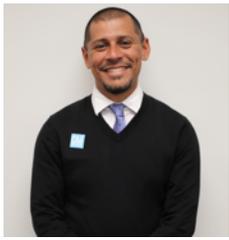
Damian Diaz, Mathew Sarabia, Jose Villalobos & Martin Landin, all won their weight class.

Esther Rubio from Monterey County Office of Education & Josh Harrower from Cal State Monterey Bay provided PBIS training to district administrators, counselors and teacher leaders at the mission room at Soledad High Schools. They both praised the wonderful work staff is doing in implementing PBIS at the sites.



Mr. Wiley Reeves-Ramirez nominated 4 students to the Junior National Young Leaders Conference based on the leadership qualities that they exhibited at school. One of these students was accepted: JulieAnn Lopez. I understand that she is currently fundraising to attend a conference in the summer. Cost \$2100.

For up to date information, please follow me on twitter at <https://twitter.com/soledadsupt>



Educational Services



Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) Training

Josh Harrower and Esther Rubio from MCOE conducted our third District-Wide PBIS training for all school sites on Tuesday, February 16 from 8:30-3:00. It was very exciting to see all school teams discussing their rules and expectations, their Office Discipline Referrals, and their Progressive Discipline Flow Charts. Ms. Rubio and Mr. Harrower discussed the SWIS system, student behavior data, and how documenting and tracking student behavior helps to refine their school systems and procedures.

Our final Tier 1 training will take place on April 5th. At this final training, our school teams are to bring a display of the PBIS components that they have implemented so that they can share with everyone.



In May, three of our schools along with 7 other districts, will bring a PBIS display to MCOE to share with other schools. These displays will contain all the PBIS components that they have implemented. 8 districts in the Monterey County area are being trained on the PBIS approach as it helps to provide a safe school culture.

Safety is a priority and a LCAP goal for our district. We know that school safety and a positive learning environment is essential to student achievement. Thank you to all staff that work tirelessly to develop a positive school culture on our sites.

Special Projects

ELPAC is Coming Our Way

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18		2018-19	
ELPAC Pilot Testing	December 2015					
Field Test Administrations (No scores reported)		ELPAC Summative (Spring 2017)	ELPAC Initial (Fall 2017)			
Operational Administrations (Scores reported)	CELDT	CELDT	CELDT	ELPAC Summative (Spring 2018)	ELPAC Initial (July 1, 2018)	ELPAC Operational (Initial and Summative)

ELPAC (English Language Assessments for California), the new assessment to replace the CELDT exam, will be in full swing by the year 2018-19 (as noted above in the diagram). This new assessment will be field tested as early as Spring of 2017. Similar to the CELDT, ELPAC will assess students' knowledge of English in the domain areas (reading, writing, listening, & speaking). For more information, please visit the CDE link below:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ep/>

Migrant Education La Familia Conference



Several Soledad Migrant families attended the La Familia Conference on February 6th. The annual conference is hosted by MCOE's Migrant Education Program (Region XVI) and is open to the county's migrant families. Parents attended various workshops while students participated in several activities. It was a fun filled day for all!

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SPECIAL EDUCATION

What is SPED Placement Based on?

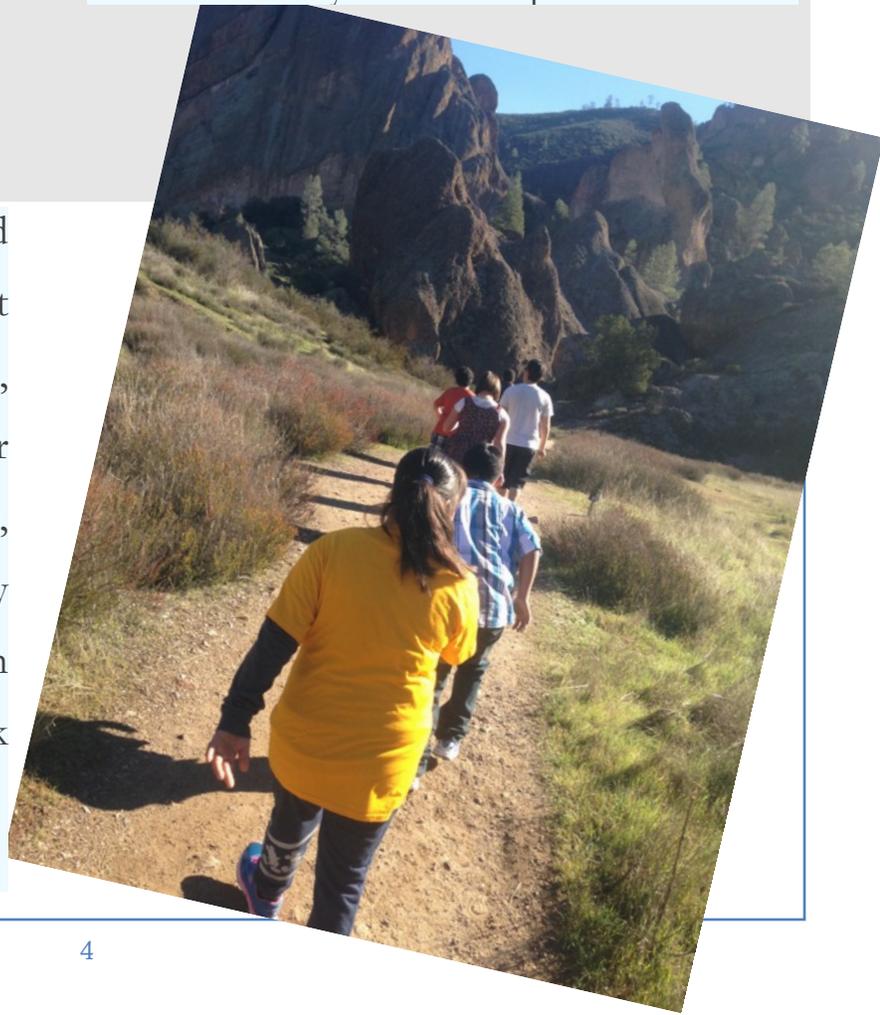
- *What are the students goals?
- *What is the least restrictive environment that the student can be expected to meet their goals?
- *Has the child been successful in their current placement? If yes, fewer services, and more mainstreaming is warranted. If not, consider more and/or different services, and a more restrictive setting.

How do Services Relate to Placement?

- *The service of transportation may be necessary for a placement in SPED.
- *Extended School Year (ESY) may be appropriate for a child with special needs.
- *The names of specific providers are not necessary to list in a placement, only the service provided.
- *The educational methodology to be used is not necessary to list in a placement.

DISTRICT HIGHLIGHT

The high road. Students from Soledad High School take the high road up at Pinnacles National Forest. Ryan Nill, Adaptive Physical Education teacher for Soledad Unified School District, has gone above and beyond on many occasions to take our students on exciting outings like this one. Thank you Mr. Ryan for all you do!



Business Department

Friendly Reminder:

Attention all School Sites:

When placing an Purchase Order remember to include sales tax and shipping. This will assure all invoices are paid in a timely manner.

Please remember to receive your items in Escape. This will facilitate the accounts payable department to be able to process your order or/ and invoice.

Lastly, remember when placing an order in Amazon.com to reference your Purchase Order number upon check out. The amazon website gives you the option, however is a must to help track and pay your order.

SITE MEETINGS

On Thursday, February 18, 2016 Main Street Middle School and Blach Construction hosted a Ground Breaking Ceremony which marks the beginning of construction of the new and improved Main Street Middle School.

On Thursday, February 18, 2016 Cesar Vega and Fernando Cubias attended the 2016 LCAP Workshop hosted at MCOE. The workshop reviewed, process the expectations and the set the stage for the 2016 LCAP.

On Thursday, February 25, 2016 the Business Department will host an ASB Training at 8:30 a.m. in the C&I Building. We welcome all school principals, ASB advisors and secretaries to join us.

Payroll Warrants:

All SUSD Employees

Reminder: Payday is Monday, February 29, 2016.

Business Department Helpful Tip

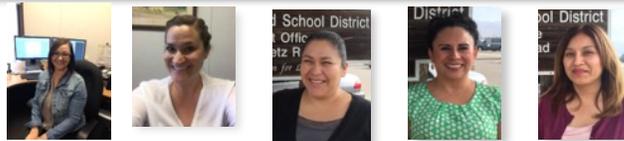
Things to watch out for when filling your taxes this 2016 season according to the US Internal Revenue Service:

Be wary of tax preparers that advertise outlandish refunds on federal benefits or tax credits you've never heard of or were not eligible to claim in the past.

Scam phone calls - with an increase in incidents of aggressive telephone scams across the country, the IRS warns taxpayers to be cautious and not be fooled by imposters posing as tax agency representatives.

E-mail schemes - the e-mails are designed to trick taxpayers into thinking these are official communications from the IRS or others in the tax industry. This e-mails can seek information related to refunds, filing status, confirming personal information, ordering transcripts and verifying PIN information. As a consumer always be aware and if you encounter anything that seems suspicious reported immediately.

Human Resources



Brandman University is presently offering scholarships to teachers who you are interested in pursuing a **career in administration**. Please see the informational flyer on our website to see how you might be able to take advantage of up to **\$4,000 in scholarship monies**. If you are interested you must apply to the University by 3/15/2016. Any questions please direct them to **Dr. Donna Fearnside at defearns@brandman.edu**.

Certificated Recruitment Pool for the 2016-2017 School Year Has Begun!

Soledad Unified School District has opened our Recruitment Pool for all certificated positions. Please apply through our website, soledadusd.org or on EdJoin.org.

Also, please visit our recruitment booths at CSUMB, Stanford, Sonoma State, Pomona, and Illinois Universities next week!

Close Reading

The person not determined to cultivate the habit of thinking misses the greatest pleasure in life.

(Thomas Edison paraphrased)

Both YR1 and YR2 intern-teachers have engaged in close reading strategies, reading “Letter from Birmingham Jail,” written by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and beginning a book study of *A Close Look at Close Reading*, respectively. Close-reading these advanced texts, the teachers, while reading the texts on their own, have experienced the power of ruminating on questions that dig into the core of the text and of discussing the text with their peers. Internalizing these experiences may influence teachers’ instructions that engage students to read deeply and think critically about text, regardless of content or grade.

Common Core Reading Standard 1: Students will be able to determine what the text says explicitly, make logical inferences from it, and cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

Close reading, one type of reading practice to achieve this standard, engages students with short, challenging complex text.... Students analyze text and return to it many times in order to grasp how the language and ideas fit together to support comprehension.... Close reading begins with students independently “having a go” at the text – reading it on their own without teacher background building.... Kindergartners and first graders can be engaged in close thinking about challenging text when the teacher reads the text aloud and pauses to ask questions that cause the students to think deeply about text as they listened.... When students engage in close reading, their goal is to gain insight into what the text says, how the message is constructed, and the author’s intent.... Text-dependent questions guide the student’s thinking deeply about text.... Students should engage daily in close reading of texts that represent all areas of curriculum.... The ultimate goal is for students to become independent readers.

(excerpts from Chapter 2: *A Close Look at Close Reading: Teaching Students to Analyze Complex Text*, Moss, Barbara, et al.)

Technology



Aerial Analytics™

This last Wednesday, Sandy from Aerial was here to give our District Admins training on using our new Aerial Analytics system, which is our LCAP Dashboards and Early Warning System. She showed us how to create our own indicators to monitor our student data in areas such as attendance, test scores, etc. This new feature will greatly help us analyze data more granularly and the early warning system will alert us to any students who are in danger of possibly dropping out, which in turn will improve our LCAP goals of Academics and Graduation.



DISTRICT WIDE NETWORK RE-WIRE PROJECT

We are almost ready to post our RFP for our district wide network cabling project.

Every school (except Main Street) will have cabling upgraded to support higher bandwidth (CAT 6), and all classrooms will

increase network drop count to 7 network drops per classroom, increasing our capabilities for more network devices in the classroom (some classrooms have 3 only), including one wireless access point per classroom. We hope to have the project done over summer break as the school networks will be down during the cabling project. The goal is for staff and students to return Fall 2016 to noticeable bandwidth increase, and for our district's network infrastructure to be ready to support a 10GB bandwidth increase.



M.O.T.F



The ground breaking ceremony took place this Thursday, February 18, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. It was well attended by dignitaries. Dr. Nancy Kotowski and Dr. Deneen Guss from the Monterey County Office of Education were also in attendance to help in this historic occasion.



Community <http://sp.soledadusd.org/>

Greetings PARTS South County Coalition Members,

I am excited to be asking you to join in our commitment to **National Pink Shirt Day**, an Anti-Bullying Campaign to bring awareness to the problem that exists for those who are bullied, and help developing strategies to prevent it! By wearing pink both male and female can join in a gender neutral effort to discourage all intimidation, harassment, and all behavior that can come about through males wearing a color thought to be female-specific! What better way to bring awareness than to go against an age old stereo-type societal norm with all persons proudly rocking the color **PINK** on **February 24, 2016!**

Please come and share the results the following day on **Thursday, February 25, 2016 at PARTS So Co Coalition!!!** We want to hear from you! Please send a member from your school district, community member, and all "helps" agencies so we can have an in-depth discussion, and find solutions to the problems that intimidation and unfair practices bring. Please share this invitation to members of Law Enforcement, and counselors as you can.

It is always our pleasure to provide lunch for you, however---please remember to RSVP so we have enough food! Looking forward to seeing you on Thursday.

Best wishes,
Dee

Darlene Acosta, BSW
South County Prevention Coordinator
Sun Street Centers
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dacosta@sunstreet.org



Sibshop for Siblings of Children with Special Needs

Saturday, March 19 ~ 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Cesar Chavez Elementary School
250 Apple Avenue, Greenfield

When a child has a disability or special need, the entire family is affected. Sibshops provide support and guidance to typically-developing siblings of children with special needs. Siblings, ages 8 to 13, are encouraged to share the challenges and celebrate the joys with brothers and sisters in similar situations. This lively, action-packed 4 hour workshop mixes information and discussion activities with opportunities to make new friends and share experiences with peers who understand.

Note: Children should already be aware of their sibling's disability/special need. The cost is \$15 per child and includes lunch. Space is limited.

To enroll, download the registration form (English or Spanish) by visiting <http://www.specialkidsrusade.org/index.html>

Complete and mail with \$15/child payment to Easter Seals Central California, Attn: Sibshops, 9010 Soquel Drive, Aptos, CA 95003



PUBLIC MEETINGS ON TRANSIT NEEDS



February 24, 2016, 9:00am
TAMC Board of Directors
Monterey County Agricultural Commission
1428 Abbott Street, Salinas, CA

March 30, 2016, 1pm:
MST Mobility Advisory Committee
MST Monterey Mobility Management Center
150 Del Monte Avenue, Monterey

The Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) invites you to attend our public hearings on UNMET PUBLIC TRANSIT NEEDS. We invite members of the community to provide input on new transit services that are needed in Monterey County.

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT COMMENTS / FECHA DE CIERRE PARA COMENTARIOS: 04/30/2016



Public Transit to the Meetings:
Transporte público a las juntas:
www.mst.org
1 (888) 678 - 2871

Send your comments to:
Envíe sus comentarios a:
TAMC, Attn: Virginia Murillo
55-B Plaza Circle
Salinas, CA 93901-2902

Submit your comments online:
Envíe sus comentarios en línea:
<http://tamcmonterey.org/>

For more information / Para más información: Virginia Murillo, (831) 775 - 4415, virginia@tamcmonterey.org

JUNTAS SOBRE LAS NECESIDADES DEL TRÁNSITO PÚBLICO



24 de febrero del 2016, 9:00am
TAMC Board of Directors:
Monterey County Agricultural Commission
1428 Abbott Street, Salinas, CA

30 de marzo del 2016, 1:00pm
MST Mobility Advisory Committee:
MST Monterey Mobility Management Center
150 Del Monte Avenue, Monterey

La Agencia de Transportación del Condado de Monterey (TAMC) lo invita a nuestras audiencias públicas sobre las NECESIDADES DEL TRANSPORTE PÚBLICO. Invitamos a miembros de la comunidad a proporcionar comentarios sobre los nuevos servicios de transporte público que se necesitan en el Condado de Monterey.