



Soledad Unified School District Weekly Newsletter

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2016/2017 THEME: DISCOVER WHAT'S POSSIBLE

JANUARY 13, 2017

SUSD BRIGHT SPOTS

SOLAR PANEL PROJECT

If you have driven by Gabilan Drive, you will see great progress being made on the high school Solar Project. We are excited about this work. We are setting the bar in South County for others to follow. The project is expected to be completed by February or March 2017.



Staff and students represented SUSD at the recent Soledad Rotary Club. Our students of the month were recognized. Gabilan students showcased PBIS activities as their teacher, Mr. Ibarra and their Counselor Mrs. Maturino cheered them on.

MainStreet Middle School Construction Update

We have had a minor bump on the road in regards to the construction project. First, during the second phase of the construction, the bid came in at a much higher rate with Blach

Construction than expected and it did not include the demolition of the buildings and the play fields. So we had to request a second bid from Dilbeck and Sons, an approved contractor. Thank goodness bid came lower and the Board, at its Special Meeting of December 16, 2016, awarded the construction bid to Dilbeck. Right now, Dilbeck is busy with hiring subcontractors, ordering the steel and block that needs to be manufactured per specifications that are governed by laws for school districts. So even though you are not seeing any movement, there is work taking place behind the scenes. Much needed rain has also slowed us. It is Happening in Soledad!



Educational Services Team



LCAP GOAL 2:

**District-
Wide PD on
Jan. 5 & 6** ★

Jan. 5- K-12 Professional Development

This was a great day for learning in Soledad Unified School District.

The Elementary, Science, & ELD teachers attended sessions in both:

- The New Designated English 3-D materials
- The New Generation Science Standard Curriculum called "STEMscopes."

The High School & the Middle School took part in:

- The 8 Mind Frames from John Hattie .
- The book study of John Hattie's book, "Visible Learning."

All schools took part in Strategic Planning in the afternoon at their sites in their Departments & in their Grade Levels.



LCAP GOAL- 2- Jan. 6- K-12 Professional Development by Dr. Nancy Frey

Elementary Sites-

- Were trained on Close Reading & Text Complexity.
- Participated in site Breakout sessions in how to apply the "Rigorous Reading" book on Chapt. 2-3-5- Close Reading & Text Complexity in their daily practice.

Middle School & High School-

- Were trained on "Visible Learning" book by John Hattie
- Participated in site Breakout sessions in how to apply "Visible Learning book to their daily practice.

Dr. Nancy Frey presented "Collaborative Conversations" in the afternoon to all K-12 teachers.

Special Projects

Coming Up:

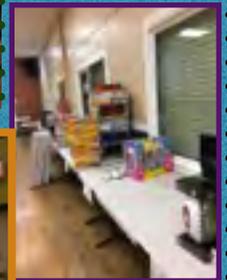
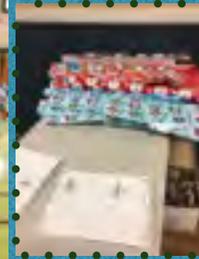
- February 13 - ELPAC (English Language Proficiency Assessments of California) Field Test training
- February 21 - DELAC (District English Language Advisory Committee) 6:00 p.m. Jack Franscioni School Library
- March 6th - April 4th Field Testing ELPAC at Gabilan, San Vicente, Frank Ledesma, Soledad High School

SUSD Parent Center Happenings (LCAP Goal 4)

Coming Up:

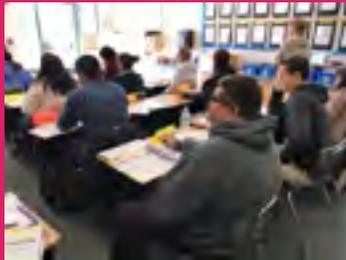
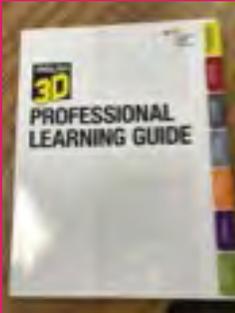
- DA CA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Updates - January 18th

COPS Giving Tree



ENGLISH 3D

(LCAP Goal 6)



Thursday, January 5th several teachers attended the English 3D training. Teachers were trained to deliver the program to students. The 4 hour session was jam packed with information.

The Cops Giving Tree, annual holiday event, was hosted by the YMCA on Friday, December 16, 2016. Many Soledad families attended the event and a "merry" time was had by all.

Erin Ramirez
Special Projects Coordinator
eramirez@soledad.k12.ca.us



SPECIAL EDUCATION

What is Early Start?

Early Start services ensure early intervention to children with disabilities, ages birth through three years old. The California Department of Education, and the California Department of Developmental Services give these Early Start services.

Parentally Placed Private School

When a parent with a child with a disability places their child in a private school, private school children with disabilities do not have rights to receive the special education services that they would receive if they were attending public school.

DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

Pictured here is Lori Morones, Coordinator of Special Education, along with Maria Rendon pre-school teacher on Meta Road, who has worked at our state pre-school for 20 years and has just retired. We thank you Maria for your many years of dedication to Soledad Unified School District, and wish you a very happy retirement from all of the staff in Soledad.



Business Department



Business Department

Business Standard Mileage Rate Decreased in 2017

The IRS has announced that the business standard mileage rate for transportation expenses paid or incurred beginning January 1, 2017, will be 53.54 cents per mile. The new rate for business miles is a 0.54 (one half cent) per mile decrease from the 2016 mileage rate of 544 cents per mile. This is the rate which employers can reimburse employees, tax free, for business use of their personal automobiles. If the employee is reimbursed at a higher rate than 53.54 cents per mile, only the excess should be noted as income on the employee's W-2. Mileage rate for each school district are set by their Board of Trustees. These rates can be more or less than the tax-free rate that the IRS has set.

On December 22, 2016 the County Superintendent of Schools Finance and Business Services publicized the 2106 IRS Business Standard Mileage Rate decreased to 53.54 cents in 2017.

For further information concerning the mileage rate, please contact the Soledad Unified Business Department at (831) 678-0786.

Business Office Hours:
Monday-Friday
7:45 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

The Fiscal Report

CalPERS Considers Reducing Assumed Rate of Return

In September 2016, the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) Board directed staff to conduct an outreach program to employers and other stakeholders regarding a potential decrease in the assumed rate of return on investments as this will cause increases to future contributions to the system. The assumed rate of return is currently 7.5%, which CalPERS staff believe, based upon the anticipated investment market outlook, will require riskier investment decisions. In turn, this could mean higher volatility in employer contribution rates. Reducing the assumed rate of return would definitely cause an increase in employer contribution rates, but CalPERS staff believe that the resulting employer contribution rate increases will be more predictable and less severe.

Further, based upon the Public Fund Survey produced by the National Association of Retirement Administrators, 46% of the 127 responding retirement plans have dropped their assumed rate of return since 2012. CalPERS conducted a survey of public agency employers, including schools and community colleges, to determine whether and how they are planning for increasing contribution rates and how severe the financial impact of such increases will be. Most employers responded that reducing the volatility of contribution rates, rather than dealing with the potential volatility of the current rate of return assumption, is preferred. Also, phasing in assumed rate of return reductions over time is preferred to a significant one-time adjustment. The full article can be found at:

www.calpers.ca.gov/page/about/board/boar-meetings/financeadmin-201612

School Services Of California,
volume 36 No.25 published 12/22/2016
Michelle McKay Underwood and Sheila G Vickers

Human Resources



Vacancy Job Announcements:

Click on the link below

<https://www.edjoin.org/Home/Jobs?countyID=27&districtID=465>



It's that time of year again!

Certificated Staff

Please be on the look out for the annual Assignment Survey. The survey must be completed on or before January 27th and turned in to the Secretary III at your site.

Thank you!

Julia Turner

New Teacher Support & Development Coordinator



In the Hands of a Teacher

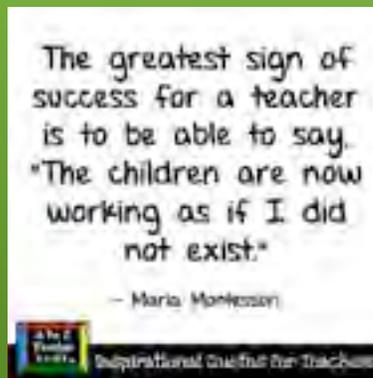
Welcome back to school to continue the profound work that you do as facilitators of learning for students. Resuming instruction in your classroom, envision your students working in their professions, and see framed on their walls alongside diplomas, "Product of _____, my teacher at Soledad Unified School District!" (Insert your name in the blank.) Oh, what privilege lies in a teacher's hands!

A teacher takes
a *Hand*, opens
a *Mind* and
touches a *Heart*

A good teacher is
like a candle
It consumes
itself to
light the way
for others.

LCAP#5 - High Quality Support, and retain
highly effective and diverse workforce

They may forget
what you said
but they will
not forget
how you made
them feel.



Unlocking the Future Today

Technology



Security Cameras

There is a new process for any questions, concerns or needs regarding security cameras. Please submit a tech request for these now, just as you would any other tech request. We will work with MOT to come up with a solution that fits your site needs.

LCAP goal 3

NWEA MAP App/Program on Mac Labs

Teachers, great news! You no longer have to worry about having your students type in the URL for NWEA MAP testing, we have added the new NWEA MAP App to all Mac lab computers. Simply click on the icon in the dock, and a secure browser will open. During testing, the students will not be able to open any other windows or tabs, they will be locked into the program.



LCAP goal 2

Digital Rodeo

The Digital Rodeo is just around the corner. Local EdTech events are very rare so take advantage of this opportunity to learn about using technology for enhancing teaching.



LCAP goal 2



FMOT Department Update

The following are present activities of the new FMOT Director:

1. Facility audits in process, where is the greatest needs
2. Preparing FMOT Department reorganization presentation to allow FMOT Director flexibility to manage large construction projects in the future
3. Developing individual employee work schedules
4. Developing proper staffing levels utilizing CASBO and original time/production formula
5. Implementing policies and procedures, i.e. managing overtime, leave approvals
6. Organize general record storage and record retention policy
7. Take back SPED transportation from MCOE
8. Transportation facility under intense clean up to allow expensive buses to be parked inside
9. Developing immediate and deferred maintenance priorities with estimated costs
10. Expanding work order management system to include preventive maintenance program
11. Resolved roof leak at Gabilan Elementary office
12. Organize key entry and alarm intrusion security controls
13. 118 routine maintenance work orders completed in December
14. Introducing procedure manual for supervisor and custodian best practices
15. Created two new grounds teams supported by new mower, trailers, and power tools
16. Increasing grounds service to appropriate curb appeal levels
17. Prop. 39, Green Energy Jobs Program, will now pay for in-house self-performing labor for the life of the project, i.e., current electrician and future HVAC maintenance position
18. Prop. 39 has been funding years 1-4 of a 5 year program, no timeline restrictions on executing projects
19. Scanning all facility blue prints for future archive and reproduction savings
20. Preparing Facilities Master Plan with School Site Solutions for April Board update
21. Developing corrective measures with School Site Solutions to resolve Gabilan Elementary office building



TRANSPORTATION

Rain, Rain....please stay!

With all of this wonderful rain comes the very real possibility of flooding and flash flooding. Be aware of your surroundings and especially cautious around low lying area's and creeks that may have been dry but now are flowing. When parking or stranded on the side of the road, make sure to keep one side of the vehicles tires on the pavement for traction. This is another specialized defensive driving skill all of our bus drivers learn and practice, keeping all of our students safe!



Main Street Middle School Construction

Good news! The plans for Main Street Construction's next phase has been approved by the Office of the State Architect. We hope to start the next phase after Thanksgiving Break.

State Emergency Repair Program

This is made possible by a 0% interest loan in the amount \$2 million through the California Energy Commission.

Tentative timeline:

Groundbreaking starts December 10, 2016
Completion is anticipated by April 2017

Know Your Rights (Spanish) at Main Street Middle School

TALLER INFORMATIVO DE IMMIGRACION...

**KNOW YOUR RIGHTS
CONOZCA SUS DERECHOS...**

**SESION INFORMATIVA
INFORMATION SESSION**

18 De Enero del 2017 January 18, 2017

9am-10:30am

DONDE... WHERE...

Main Street Middle School
441 Main Street Soledad, CA 93060
Parent Resource Room/ Salon 9

Preparada/ Gestionada por: Ms. Aidee Aldaco (431) 548-8191

Presentación invitada a nivel por...



UFW Foundation / La Fundación De La Unión De Campesinos Fundadora UFW
831-758-2411
427 Pajaro St., Ste. 3, Salinas, CA 93901
(Nuestro horario Lunes a Viernes 9am-5pm
Si no conseguimos su llamada deje un mensaje de voz
claro con su nombre y número de teléfono.)

Para más información o para solicitar información y ver el sitio internet: www.ufw.org
o llame al 831-758-2411 o visite el sitio de internet: www.ufw.org

Strengthening Families (Spanish) at San Vicente Elementary

¡Acompáñanos Durante Este Invierno!
Patitas Amigas y Jugos
Bebidas para niños
Actividades para los padres
Comida ligera gratuita

Para Padres y Jóvenes de 10 a 12 años
(Padres + Jóvenes Inician Juntos)

Apoyo a los Jóvenes a:

- Preparar para el futuro.
- Mejorar su actitud en el trabajo y en la vida.
- Facilitar la comunicación familiar.

Las Familias:

- Se fortalecen en los valores y principios.
- Preparan para el futuro de los hijos.
- Mejoran el ambiente familiar.

Padres/Guardianes Oportunidades:

- Conocer los derechos de los niños.
- Conocer reglas y consecuencias.
- Conocer mejor a los niños.
- Mejorar la comunicación con los hijos.

Los Jóvenes Aprenderán:

- Comunicar con la familia.
- Mejorar la actitud en el trabajo.
- Preparar para el futuro.

**Miércoles, 1 de Febrero –
22 de Marzo, 2017 5:30-8pm**

Clase en Español
Regístrate en la oficina de Hacer Marcado Llamada Abierta a todas las familias del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Soledad
"Cada día aprendo algo nuevo"

Donde: Escuela San Vicente
Ubicación: Cafetería
1300 Metz Rd. Soledad

**STRENGTHENING
FAMILIES PROGRAM**

Para más información favor de comunicarse con:
(To be placed on the English SEP Class Wait List contact the number below)
Maricela Lara: 831-678-6428
or
Programa Fortaleciendo Familias:
(811) 754-0888 www.puertorricos.com
www.fortaleciendo.com

Triple P (Spanish) at Gabilan Elementary School

Community Human Services in collaboration with the Soledad Unified School District
Presenta:



TRIPLE P

Would you like to learn:

- ✓ Effective discipline strategies & stress management?
- ✓ Techniques on how to promote a positive, caring & loving relationship with your children?
- ✓ How to become a more confident parent?

Then, this Parent Education Program is for you! The Positive Parenting Program, or Triple P, helps parents improve their confidence and skills for dealing with everyday interactions and behavioral issues with their children. Triple P is one of the evidence-based parenting programs available worldwide, founded on 25 years of clinical and empirical research.

Join us for this 8-week class!

Gabilan Elementary School
330 Walker Dr Soledad, Ca.
Room # 1

8 Wednesdays, 1/18/17 to 3/8/17
9:30 AM to 11:30 AM

For more information, please call Maria In Espinoza at (831) 757-7912 or (831) 758-0844.



Community Human Services in Colaboración con el Distrito de Escolar Unido de Soledad
Presenta:



TRIPLE P

Programa de Padres Positivos

¿Le gustaría aprender más sobre:

- ✓ Cómo promover relaciones positivas, cariñosas y respetuosas con sus hijos?
- ✓ Estrategias de disciplina efectiva y de control del estrés?
- ✓ Cómo convertirse en un padre más seguro de sí mismo?

Entonces, este programa de educación para padres es para usted. El Programa de Padres Positivos Triple P, ayuda a los padres a aumentar su confianza y sus habilidades para lidiar con las interacciones diarias y los problemas de conducta de sus hijos. Triple P es uno de pocos programas para padres basado en evidencia científica que se encuentran disponibles en todo el mundo, lo cual se basó en 25 años de investigaciones.

Acompáñenos a esta serie de clases de 8 semanas!

Gabilan Elementary
330 N. Walker Drive
Soledad CA 93960

8 miércoles 18 de enero-8 de marzo 2017
9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

For more information, please call Maria In Espinoza at (831) 757-7912 or (831) 758-0844.
(831) 758-0888 and please include our Agency Name: Fortaleciendo Familias or please include our Agency Name: Fortaleciendo Familias

