



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.



Superintendent's Report to the Board of Trustees

November 21, 2014

Superintendent's Message:

Board of Trustees

President:

Mr. Fabian M. Barrera

Vice-President

Mrs. Marie Berlanga

Clerk:

Mrs. Gloria Ledesma

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Mr. Jaime Fernández

Mrs. Jodi Massa

*Dr. Rupi K. Boyd,
Superintendent and
Secretary to the Board*

Our week at a glance:

* We wish you all a very happy thanksgiving break. May you enjoy time with your loved ones! We look forward to your safe return on December 1st.

* Soledad High School Students Bobby Perez and Robert Villanueva attended Camp Royal and then presented their leadership experience at our local Rotary Club. They did a phenomenal job.

* Cookies and Coffee with the Superintendent: We had 6 parents, 3 students and Board Trustee Massa with her husband and daughter attend the event. Parents expressed the need for translators to be present at district meetings. The district has two translators and we will work to make sure we have the services available.

* Behavioral Health Monterey County: We met with Dr Smith and Ms. Rincon to collaborate and support Soledad students and families. Ms. Rincon is providing Mental Health First Aide training on January 12 for 25 to 30 staff members.

* Soledad Educational Foundation (SEF) met on Monday at 5:30 p.m. The SEF is planning their annual carnival on March 12-14, 2015. Sign up information for all staff will be forthcoming.



Educational Services

Proficiency for All-Common Core Standards Implementation

Soledad iPad 1 to 1 Initiative:

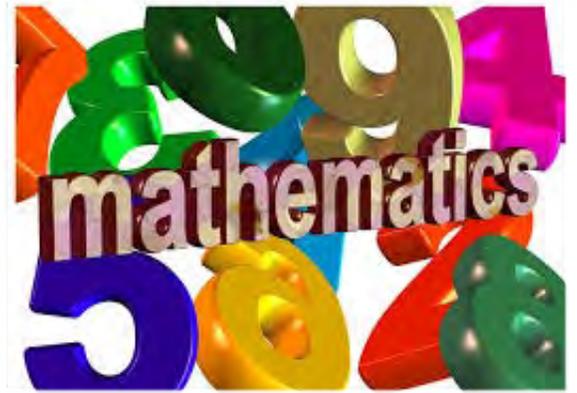
High School Technology Rollout Planning Meeting: Staff meets every Monday effective December 1st, to plan and ensure effective rollout of iPads. The meeting is from 11 to 2 p.m. in the C&I building. Please connect with Cresta or Joe if you are interested in providing input or participating in the meeting.

Educational Services Webpage now LIVE

Please take an opportunity to review and share our new educational services website. It contains parent, teacher, and Common Core resources. Please visit the soledadusd.org webpage under Our Departments and Educational Services or ci.soledadusd.org.

NWEA Assessment Window Closes

NWEA window closes this Friday. All students TK-8th will have tested in ELA and Math. A professional development for NWEA data analysis for leadership and lead teachers will be December 2nd.

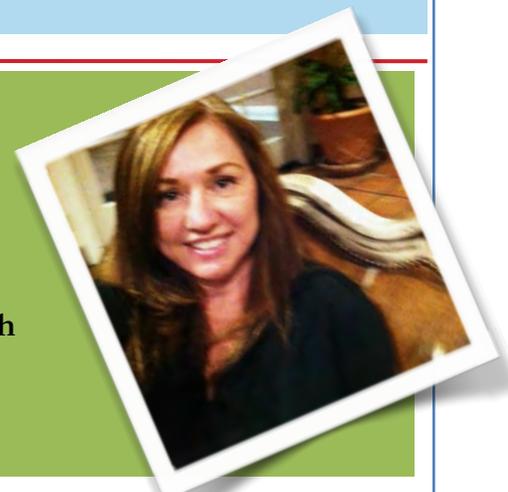


Math Pilot for Elementary Schools Comes to a Close

On December 4th, Math Pilot teachers will be preparing their recommendations to present to the entire elementary teaching staff the following week. A big thank you to all of our pilot teachers who have diligently evaluated the curriculum using our Instructional Materials Evaluation Tool. A full staff vote on the pilot will be on December 7th at 2:00pm at the Jack Francioni Multipurpose room.

Appointment to be a Reviewer: ELA/ELD

Congratulations to Soledad High School Principal Elizabeth Austin! The State Board of Education has recently appointed her to serve as a reviewer to evaluate instructional materials for the 2015 English Language Arts and English Language Development Adoption. Her knowledge and experience in both ELA and ELD will help guide the adoption of new teacher instructional materials.



Special Projects

Community & Family Support



On Tuesday, November 19th, Aidee Aldaco facilitated the monthly Soledad Community Collaborative with presenter, Germaine Caldwell from the Monterey YMCA. YMCA conducts Life Skills groups for girls at Soledad High and Main Street Middle Schools to promote healthy relationships. Germaine Caldwell announced that YMCA received a grant called "Close to Home" which will empower Soledad youth in bringing awareness of our relationships within our community. The grant is sponsored by the California Department of Public Health and only three rural communities were chosen within the United States! Thank you to Monterey YMCA for their commitment to Soledad!



Elvia Espino and Erin Ramirez coordinated the 1st Annual Resource Fair on Saturday, November 15th at Jack Francioni Elementary. Parents from Soledad Unified were welcomed to stop by and visit the different resource tables to gain information on what is available in our community. Agencies such as South County YMCA, Soledad Public Library, Monterey County Behavioral Health, Clinica de Salud, and much more! Elvia and Erin plan to coordinate another event in the spring.



WINTER PROGRAMS & CONCERTS



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

Wednesday, December 17, 2014 @ 6 p.m. for primary grades
Thursday, December 18, 2014 @ 6 p.m. for intermediate grades
Wednesday, December 16, 2014 @ 6 p.m. at the YMCA
Thursday, December 18, 2014 @ 6 p.m. in the Multi for grades
4-6 Wednesday, December 17, 2014 @ 6 p.m. at the YMCA
Wednesday, December 17, 2014 @ 6 p.m. at the YMCA
Wednesday, December 3, 2014 @ 7 p.m. in the Multi
Thursday, December 11, 2014 @ 7 p.m. in the Multi

Special Education

Student Support

Two students here work on assignments in the Learning Center at Main Street Middle School. Special Education Teacher, Rebecca McFarlane, is in charge of this great resource which is provided to students who receive special education services.



Educational Benefit

The Individual Education Plan (IEP) is not required to provide for special education and related services, that will maximize the potential of the student, but it must be reasonably calculated to enable the child to receive educational benefit.

District Highlights

Want to go to college? It is important for young people to be exposed to the option and possibility of attending college someday. Mr. Radillo's class at Gabilan Elementary School, has the subtle reminder of college pennants up in his classroom. Little things like this are a great way to get students in the frame of mind, that anyone can go college if they are willing to put in the work.



Business Department

Aesop Tip of the Week: Adding Preferred Substitutes

Do you have a substitute that you enjoy having in your class when you are out? Be sure to add this sub to your "Preferred Substitutes" list in Aesop. While this does not guarantee that the sub will be assigned to your class when you are out, your "Preferred Substitutes" will have the ability to see your job assignments before anyone else.

To add someone to your "Preferred Substitutes" list, logon to Aesop and click on the "Account" tab towards the top of the page. Next click on the "Preferred Substitutes" tab on the left side of the screen. Once there, click on the green "Add Substitute(s)" button. From here, you will be able to select up to five (5) substitutes to add to your "Preferred Substitutes" list.

Questions? Please contact Esteban Rios at 678-3950 x132

Payroll

Due to Thanksgiving break, payroll warrants will be available for pick up at the District office on November 26, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. All warrants that are not picked up by noon will be mailed.

For any questions regarding payroll and time sheets, please contact the payroll department at (831) 678-3950, Melissa Silva, Classified employees at x104 or Vanessa Guajardo for Certificated employees at x108.

Holiday Fundraisers

Holiday Boutique and Craft Show

The Soledad High Sober Grad Committee will be hosting a Holiday and Boutique Show on Saturday December 6th from 10am to 3pm at the Soledad High School Multi-purpose room. All funds help support Sober Grad Night.

Lion's Club Turkey Dinner

The Lion's Club will be hosting a Thanksgiving Turkey Dinner for those in need on Thursday November 27th at the Soledad YMCA from 12am to 3pm. Have a happy and wonderful Thanksgiving!

Benefits

Reminder, Open Enrollment began November 1st and runs through December 5th, with new benefits taking effect January 1, 2015. Please contact Bertha Calderon at (831) 678-3950 x101 if you would like to make adjustments to your current benefit plan.

Human Capital



Credentials

All certificated staff, please check the status of your credential at <http://www.ctc.ca.gov> and take action to renew any expiring credentials.

Free Flu Shot at CVS for PPO Members

If you have not gotten your free flu shot, the Thanksgiving Break is an excellent time to take advantage of the benefits of our medical insurance!

SUSD's Educational Partnership

Soledad Unified School District is excited for our new partnership with the University of Phoenix. If you are interested in obtaining a Bachelor's degree, a Master's degree, or teaching credential through the flexibility of an online program, please contact the Human Capital department. There is tuition support.

Staff Challenge

All of our staff works incredibly hard to support our students to achieve success. This Thanksgiving Break, the Human Capital department challenges you to do something good for yourself whether it is an exercise, rest, take an adventure, or spend time with friends and family. We invite you to share a picture of you enjoying your break so that we may include it in our December Newsletter. Please send photos to Lisa Kleinhofer at lkleinhofer@soledad.k12.ca.us.

Metacognition - Power to Grow By, Julia Turner

Three questions drive metacognitive reflection.

- What do I want?
- Am I getting what I want?
- If yes, I will celebrate and will continue.
- If no, what am I willing to change to get what I want?

These reflect a thinking process as William Glasser, a 20th century American psychiatrist who influenced much in academia, emphasized in his reality therapy concept. Contemporary to Glasser, John Flavell coined the word metacognition, one's mental processing of planning, monitoring, regulating, acting.

I pose to teachers whom I have been supporting, "Are you getting what you want in your classroom?" Their responses to this inquiry and their ensuing self-reflections on the accompanying questions have prompted their positive changes in instruction and learning environment. They continue to metacognize: plan, monitor, regulate, act.

At the close of this semester, as you reflect on this semester and anticipate the near year, I pose the same questions.

- What do you want?
- Are you getting you what you want?
- If yes, celebrate and continue.
- If no, what are you willing to change to get what you want?

Enjoy a safe and wonderful Thanksgiving vacation.

TECHNOLOGY

Thank You!

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, I would like to thank my team for all their hard work and dedication to supporting the staff and students at Soledad Unified School District. We started off this year short staffed. The technology team responded to the challenge with an amazing attitude. Thank you also to all the classified staff, certificated staff, and administration. Everyone has been very supportive as we have tried to move forward with various technology initiatives. Thank you for your long hours, thank you for your flexibility, and for your patience. It is an honor to serve you.

Tech Team



Greg

Computer Tech II
MSMS
Jack Franscioni

Super Power:
Duplication and speed- the ability to clone machines



Zeke

Computer Tech I
Rose Ferrero
Frank Ledesma

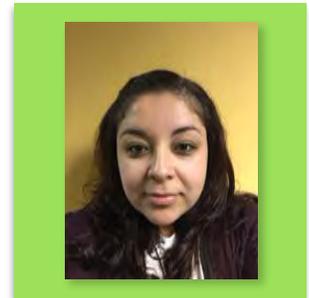
Super Power:
Technopathy- welding iPads for K12



JD

Computer Tech I
SHS & CEC

Super Power:
Endurance and Spider Senses (Ability to protect and detect threats on SUSD's web)

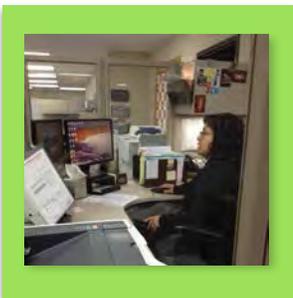


Annette

Computer Tech I
District Office
San Vicente
Gabilan

Super Power:
Portal Creation - ability to build the web for SUSD

Data Team



Vicki

Registrar
District Wide

Super Power:
Cheering on Giants to World Series victories



Marta

CALPADS/SIS
Specialist
District Wide

Super Power:
Merging (Aeries with CALPADS) and Precognition

Maintenance

Tip of the week-

During winter months plugged in space heaters can cause circuit breakers to trip and fail. Space heaters require a lot of amperage to operate. Asking maintenance to check first is always wise choice.

Safety & Health

On September 15, 2014, Governor Jerry Brown signed into law SB 1266 (Chapter 321, Statutes of 2014), which will require certain local education agencies to provide emergency epinephrine auto-injectors to school nurses and trained volunteers to provide emergency aid to persons suffering or reasonably believed to be suffering from an anaphylactic reaction. This law goes into effect on January 1, 2015. Anaphylaxis is defined in the law as a potentially life-threatening hypersensitivity to a substance. It can be caused by insect stings, food allergies, drug reactions, and exercise. The symptoms include shortness of breath, wheezing, difficulty breathing, difficulty talking or swallowing, hives, itching, swelling, shock, or asthma. Timely administration of epinephrine to a person suffering an anaphylactic reaction can be life-saving. The new law defines an EAI as a disposable drug delivery system with a spring-activated needle that is designed for emergency administration of epinephrine to provide rapid, convenient first aid for persons suffering a potentially fatal anaphylactic reaction.

MOTF

Transportation

Soledad Unified School District's Transportation Department currently employs sixteen classified employees who possess a school bus drivers license. Earning a school bus drivers license is no easy feat. There are certain steps to follow and tasks to complete. Its easier if a driver has a sponsor like SUSD. The proper steps are:

- A school bus driver physical.
- Through the DMV four different tests must be completed. Class C (if still needed), Class B, Passenger Endorsement, and Air Brakes.
- Complete a minimum of 20 hours of classroom instruction.
- Need H-6 DMV printout.
- Pass two California Highway Patrol written tests. Rules & Regulations and First Aid.
- Complete a minimum of 20 hours of behind the wheel training with a certified instructor.
- Pass a driving test with the California Highway Patrol which includes proper inspection of a school bus.
- And finally complete the Commercial Application with DMV.

After completing your bus driver journey, a bus driver must fulfill 10 hours of in service training per year to maintain their license. First aid certificates must also be renewed every two or four years.