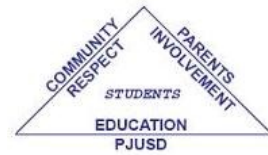


# WHAT'S GOOD! AT PJUSD



Pierce Joint Unified School District Newsletter

November 2017

## Pierce Bears 2017 Sacramento Valley League Champions!

*"Students First"*



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## CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES AT PHS

The Pierce High School's new multi-purpose building is making significant progress in spite of recent weather events. The site curb and gutter was installed over the Veteran's Day holiday as well with the majority of the building's rough framing. By the end of November, the Contractor (Simile Construction) is expected to have all rough framing activities completed which includes the roof and other interior walls. Over the next few months, other trade work is being scheduled for completion which will allow workers to continue throughout the winter period.

## 1st Grade Career Day at Arbuckle Elementary

On Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, Arbuckle Elementary held their first annual “Career Day” for our AES 1<sup>st</sup> Graders. The 1<sup>st</sup> grade teachers came up with the idea as the students were studying their language arts unit theme on “Community and Jobs”. For one of their assignments, the students had to write about what they wanted to be when they grew up. After some initial planning, the teachers were able to sign-up six adults to come to AES to share with the students about their profession. The presenters were: Terry Wilderman-Firefighter/Paramedic, Lyssa Gomez-Police Officer, Rosio Perez-Medical Assistant, Martin Olivaros-CHP Officer, Jacob Miller-Mechanic, and Melissa Van Laningham-Veterinarian. The students were excited to listen to each presenter tell about their important job. The teachers reported that the event lead to some interesting discussions back in their classroom. A big thanks to our AES 1<sup>st</sup> grade teachers and presenters for making our “Career Day” such a success.



## 8th Graders Attend Production of “The Diary of Anne Frank”



On October 10th, the entire 8th grade at Johnson Junior High embarked on a curriculum-based field trip to The Sacramento Theatre Company in Downtown Sacramento. They watched a professional production of “The Diary Anne Frank” as part of their English Language classroom and curriculum.

Students were very excited as they learned, discussed, and wrote about the subject of Anne Frank and the Holocaust, as well as what to expect and how to dress and behave for a theatrical production. On the big day, they represented their school well, and were model citizens who were in awe of the professional actors. Many students had never been to a play before and were amazed by the quality of lighting, staging, and acting in a real-world environment.

The field trip was a wonderful reminder of how important and enriching academic field trips are. Literature came alive on October 10th and lasting impressions and memories were made!



## Grand Island Feast



It is that time of year again for Grand Island's famous "Thanksgiving Feast". This tradition has been going on strong for over the past 40 years. Back in the day, the Grand Island Mothers' Club made the decision to start a Thanksgiving meal for not only the students but for the community of Grimes and surrounding area. Each year over 200 people visit the school for a delicious meal of turkey and all the fixings. The feast was held this year on Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup> and

once again was well attended. The Grand Island Parents' Club did an amazing job planning and serving the meal. The audience was treated to a musical performance from our TK through 5<sup>th</sup> grade student body under the direction of their music teacher, Ron Rector.



## Sweets & Suites

Pierce High School Band members and Johnson Jr. High School band members performed on Thursday, November 9 in front of a large crowd. As the audience members arrived at the event, band members served sweets for them to enjoy as they listened to suites being performed. Performances included solos, duos, trios and the entire bands from both schools. Kyle Howell and Saffa Yafai were two of the soloists playing the electric guitar and piano keyboard respectively. The event was enjoyed by all who were in attendance. This fundraiser is part of many that the high school plans to hold. They have a goal of raising enough funds in order to be able to attend a competition in Southern California this spring.



## PIQE AT JJH



Parents graduating from the PIQE  
(Parents for Quality Education)  
9 week program in October, 2017

# CELEBRATING STAFF AND STUDENTS

## Pierce High School at Sherer Ranch



Pierce High School FFA students participated in their first SLEWS project in 10 years.

Restoration work for the day was focused on installing a drip irrigation system with plastic line that was recycled from another project. Once the line was laid, students used goof plugs to plug old emitter holes and worked together to install flags and new emitters at each location that a native plant will get planted during our next SLEWS day in January.



Some of the highlights of the day were problem-solving and setting a new Group Juggle speed record, observing a garter snake and several Pacific chorus frogs, and observing a field full of lambs munching on alfalfa.

## Agribee Competition at Arbuckle Elementary

A large crowd was in attendance at Arbuckle Elementary for the annual school "Agribee" on October 30, 2017. The yearly event is sponsored by the Pierce High FFA Officers and Mr. Luke Van Laningham, PHS Ag Teacher through the Butte County Farm Bureau. Over forty 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders from AES and Grand Island competed in this year's event. Presiding as our judges were: George Green, PJUSD Board Member, and Donna Green retired AES teacher. Students were required not only to spell the agriculture related word, but also supply the judges with the correct definition. A fierce battle took place over four exciting rounds until two students were crowned the winners. First place went to 5<sup>th</sup> grader, Owen Brian and runner up went to 4<sup>th</sup> grader, Tomas Mendoza. Both boys move on to the final "Agribee" competition scheduled for Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup> in Durham, CA. Best wishes to our two finalists!



## New Faces in the District



George Parker,  
Capital Projects  
Manager



James Russell,  
Technology  
Support  
Technician



John McPeck,  
Custodian,  
Groundswoker,  
Bus Driver at  
Arbuckle  
Elementary



Sujei Torres,  
Paraeducator at  
Grand Island